

DAVID BENTON
AND
NANCY PITTS

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DAVID BENTON

AND

NANCY PITTS

THEIR ANCESTORS

and DESCENDANTS

Collected and Arranged by

EDITH E. DAVENPORT

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DEDICATED

To the memory of my Mother,
HELEN BENTON HATCH,
grand-daughter of
David Benton and Nancy Pitts

“To-day we dimly perceive that the history of America is the story of the Pioneer; that on our shifting frontiers the race has been hammered and tempered to a cutting edge.”

FOREWORD

It is most fitting that in this year, when the Tercenary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth, Mass., is being celebrated, a record of our branch of the descendants of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins be printed and preserved for the benefit of those living who are directly concerned and for their posterity.

From the early days of the Plymouth Colony to the present this has been in each generation a family of pioneers. From Plymouth to Duxbury, to Little Compton, R. I., to Dighton, Mass. From Wethersfield, Conn. to Guilford, Conn. to Litchfield, Conn.

In New York State these two families unite in helping to build new homes in the wilderness around Honeoye and Hemlock Lakes, in the towns of Richmond and Livonia.

From there, with the addition of the Freemans, from first, Philadelphia, Pa., Woodbridge, N. J.; Warren, N.Y., Farmersville, N.Y., Pultneyville, N.Y., and of the Hatches from first Boston, Mass., Barnstable, Yarmouth, Falmouth, Mass., Dresden, Maine, we find the incentive to "Go still further West" appears.

We find them early in the settlement of Illinois, several families being pioneers in Kansas; and, today, many are living in Oklahoma, Texas and California, each and all doing their part in still building up this great country.

Few of our ancestors were great men, but by their record they show they were brave and loyal, serving their country in the Revolution, the War of the Rebellion and later on the fields of France, always ready to do their duty, whenever called upon.

Today, they are still "on the firing line," fighting the forces of evil which are rampant, endeavoring to uplift fallen humanity.

As the families mentioned herein were so united in building up the different sections of the country to which they migrated, we have thought best to divide the book into three parts, viz.:

1. The Ancestors of David Benton and Nancy Pitts in New England.
2. David Benton and Nancy Pitts, their children and Descendants in New York State.
3. David Benton and Nancy Pitts, their Descendants in the "Far West."

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ALDEN COAT OF ARMS

MAYFLOWER ANCESTRY OF NANCY PITTS WIFE OF DAVID BENTON

John Alden came on Board the Mayflower at Portsmouth, England. He was a magistrate of Plymouth and assisted in the administration of every Governor for 67 years. He died Sept. 12, 1686.

John Alden married Priscilla Mollines, also a passenger in the Mayflower, in 1621.

Elizabeth Alden, daughter of John Alden and Priscilla Mollines married Hon. Wm. Pabodie, of Duxbury.

Elizabeth Pabodie, daughter of Wm. Pabodie and Elizabeth Alden was born in 1644, and married in 1666 John Rogers, whose grandfather, Thomas Rogers, also came in the Mayflower. He was a merchant of Boston and also lived in Duxbury.

Elizabeth Rogers, born 1667, was the daughter of John Rogers and Elizabeth Pabodie. She married Col. Sylvester Richmond, who was born in 1672, in Little Compton, R. I.

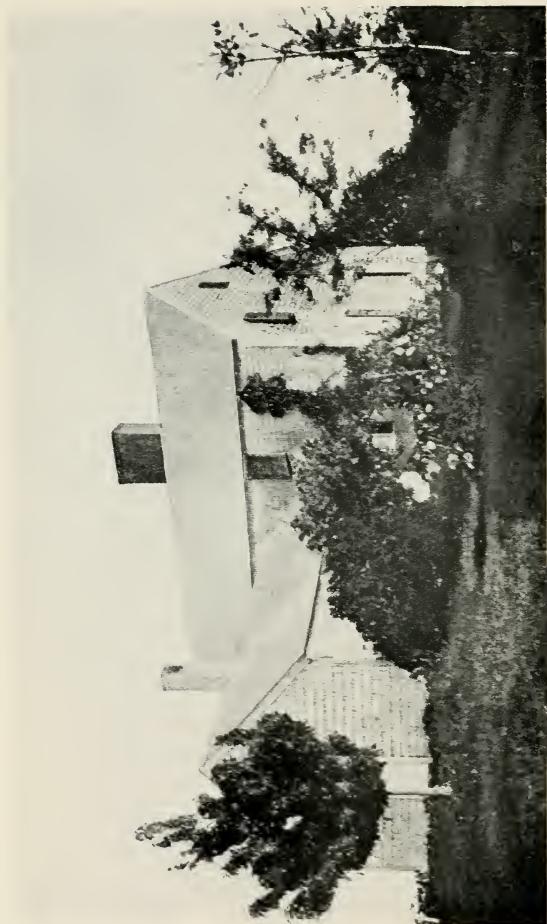
Hon. Wm. Richmond was the son of Col. Sylvester Richmond and Elizabeth Rogers. He was born 1694 and married in 1720 Anna Gray, daughter of Thomas and Anna Gray, born in 1702.

Abigail Richmond was the daughter of Hon. Wm. Richmond and Anna Gray. She married 1764 Capt. Peter Pitts. He was from Dighton, Mass., and was Captain of a Company under Washington near Boston during the Revolution.

Nancy Pitts, daughter of Capt. Peter Pitts and Abigail Richmond married David Benton, of Livonia, New York. He was born in Litchfield, Conn., and went to New York State as a pioneer in what was at that time a wilderness, shortly after the close of the Revolution.

Ebenezer Benton, son of David Benton and Nancy Pitts married Lavinia Freeman, daughter of Smith Freeman and Huldah Freeman, Pultneyville, N. Y.

Helen M. Benton, daughter of Ebenezer Benton and Lavinia Freeman married Warren A. Hatch, of Dresden, Maine, May 10, 1859.



THE ALDEN HOUSE
Erected by Col. John Alden, Grandson of John Alden

PART I

The Ancestors of DAVID BENTON and NANCY PITTS
in NEW ENGLAND

CHAPTER I

ALDEN FAMILY

The history of our Pilgrim Forefathers, their trials and persecutions in England, as dissenters from the Church of England, their escape to Holland, their departure for the New World, in which they wished to establish a home where they could worship God according to their own desires, and their final landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts, is too well known to repeat here. We wish, however, to mention a few facts about those of our own ancestors who came on the "Mayflower," viz: John Alden, William Mollines, his wife, son Joseph, daughter Priscilla and Thomas Rogers.

It is said that William Mollines was of Huguenot descent, born in Lyons, France; that he fled with his family to Holland to escape persecution by the Catholics for his religious faith, as did many Protestants at that time. Here they joined with the congregation of English Separatists and later came with others from the church at Leyden in the good ship "Mayflower," in 1620, which colony truly became "the Corner-stone of a great nation."

From "New England's Memorial," by Nathaniel Morton, written in 1669, we quote the following:

"On the fifteenth of December they (The Pilgrims) weighed anchor, to go to the place they had discovered, and arrived the sixteenth day in the harbor (Plymouth) they had formerly discovered, and afterward took better view of the place, and resolved where to pitch their dwellings; and on the five and twentieth day of December began to erect the first house for common use, to receive them and their goods and common store (which was long in unlading for want of boats, and by reason of foulness of the winter weather, and sickness and divers) they began to build some small cottages for habitation, as time would admit; and also consulted of laws and orders both for their civil and military government, as the necessity

of their present condition did require. But that which was sad and lamentable, in two or three months' time half their company died, especially in January, and February, being the depth of winter, wanting houses and other comforts, being infected with the scurvy and other diseases, which this long voyage and their incommode condition had brought upon them so as there died, sometimes two, sometimes three on a day, in the aforesaid time, that of one hundred and odd persons, scarce fifty remained.

"Amongst others in the time forenamed, died Mr. William Mollines, a man pious and well deserving, endowed also with a considerable outward estate; and had it been the will of God that he had survived, might have proved an useful inscrument in his place, with several others who deceased in this great and common affliction, whom I might take notice of to the like effect."

John Alden was not a member of the Leyden Church, but was hired at Southampton as a cooper, and in this humble way our first ancestor started out to make his home in a new country. He became one of the strong men of the colony. He was only twenty-one years of age when he came. He died September 12, 1686, being the last survivor of those who signed the famous compact on board the "Mayflower."

Priscilla Mollines' father, mother and brother all died that first terrible winter, and Priscilla was given a home with Elder Brewster.

"New England's Memorial" has the following:
"There is a traditionary anecdote relative to Captain Miles Standish and his friend John Alden. 'The lady who had gained the affections of the Captain is said to have been Priscilla Mullins. John Alden was sent to make proposals in behalf of Standish. The messenger, though a pilgrim, was then young and comely, and the lady expressed her preference by the question, 'Prithee, John, why do you not speak for yourself.' The Captain's hope was blasted, and the frank overture soon ended in the marriage of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, from whom it is said are descended all of the name of Alden in the United States.'" In Longfellow's "Courtship of Miles Standish," we are given a romantic story of the courtship of John and Priscilla, the material of which may have originated in the above anecdote. However, the records show they were married that same year.

Miles Standish, Elder Brewster and John Alden were allotted land in Duxbury as early as 1630. The first home of John Alden in Duxbury was built not far from where stands today the house erected by his grandson, Col. John Alden. The home has been in



BETTY ALDEN HOUSE. 1680 A, D.
LITTLE COMPTON R.I. NO-1680

the possession of the Alden family since the beginning and until recently occupied by a "John Alden." It is now a museum under the control of the Alden kindred.

There are no gravestones to mark the graves of John and Priscilla Alden, but it is thought they were buried in the old cemetery where to-day can be seen the gravestone of their son, Jonathan Alden.

John and Priscilla had eleven children, viz; John, Joseph, ELIZABETH, Jonathan, Sarah, Ruth, Mary, David, Rebecca, Zachariah and Priscilla. John, the oldest, was a mariner of Boston, moved to Boston in 1659; was tried for witchcraft, imprisoned, escaped and returned to Duxbury. John Adams, the second President of the United States was a descendant of Ruth Alden.

ELIZABETH ALDEN, the third child, married William Pabodie, of Duxbury. They later made their home in Little Compton, R. I. where the 'Betty Alden' house, built in 1680, is still standing. The spacious living room of this old homestead extends across the full width of the house, and from the many windows overlooking Narragansett Bay, a wonderful view, long to be remembered, is obtained. A pilgrimage to the 'Betty Alden' home and to the site of her monument in the old cemetery at Little Compton is well worth while to those of her descendants who honor her memory.

The inscription on the monument of Elizabeth Pabodie, is as follows: "Elizabeth Pabodie, Daughter of the Plymouth Pilgrims, John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, the First white Woman born in New England."

"Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth Pabodie who dyed May ye 31st, 1717, in the 94th year of her age."

"A bud from Plymouth's Mayflower sprung,

Transplanted here to live and bloom.

Her memory ever sweet and young

The centuries guard within this tomb."

Erected in 1882.

"Here lyeth buried ye body of William Pabodie,
who departed this life December ye 13th, 1707,
in ye 88th year of his age."

PABODIE FAMILY

John Pabodie probably came from England about 1635.

William Pabodie, son of John, was born in England 1619-20. He settled at Plymouth and was Representative of Duxbury in 1659-78. He married Elizabeth Alden, daughter of John Alden and Priscilla Mollines.

ROGERS FAMILY

THOMAS ROGERS, our other "Mayflower" ancestor, came with his son Joseph in the Mayflower in 1620. His other children came later; they all settled in what was then Plymouth. He died early in the winter of 1621 of hardships in the new colony. His children were Joseph, Eleazer and John.

John Rogers, son of Thomas Rogers, married Frances ———. He lived in Plymouth in 1631, in Duxbury in 1634. He was Representative in 1657.

John Rogers, son of John Rogers of Duxbury, married Elizabeth Pabodie, daughter of William Pabodie and Elizabeth Alden. He was a merchant of Boston. His property at his death was inventoried at 977 pounds. His children were Abigail, Anna, Elizabeth, Ruth, Sarah.

Elizabeth Rogers, daughter of John Rogers, married Sylvester Richmond.

RICHMOND FAMILY

The Richmond family had its origin in Brittany, France. The name was then "Richmonte." They came from Brittany with William the Conqueror.

John Richmond was born in 1594, in Wiltshire, England, at Ashton Keynes, where the old Richmond manor house is still standing. He was one of the purchasers of Taunton, Mass. in 1637. He was a large landholder and quite wealthy for that time. He died in Taunton in 1664. His children were John b. 1627; Edward, b. 1632; Sarah, b. 1638; Mary b. 1639. His sons, John and Edward were educated and refined gentlemen.

John Richmond (2) settled in Taunton, Edward (2) in Newport, where he was Crown Solicitor and Attorney General and one of the leading men of the town. Later he settled in Little Compton, R. I. where he was a large landholder.

The Richmond family was very prominent in the Colonial wars and also well represented in the War of the Revolution. Their motto on their Coat of Arms was "Resolve well and persevere."

Edward Richmond (2) was born in 1632, probably before his father came to this country. He married first, Abigail, daughter of James Davis:

Children:	Abigail	b. 1656	Mary	b. 1668
	Edward	b. 1658	Esther	b. 1669
	John	b. 1660	SILVESTER,	1672
	Elizabeth	b. 1666	Sarah	

He married second, Amy Bull, Daughter of Governor Henry and and Elizabeth Bull; children, Henry and Ann, born at Little Compton, R. I. He was in 1667, General Solicitor, in 1677-80 Attorney General; in 1686, Lieutenant; in 1690, Captain. He died in 1696.

Col. Sylvester Richmond (3), son of Capt. Edward Richmond and Abigail Davis, was born in Little Compton, R. I., 1672, died 1754. He married Elizabeth Rogers, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Pabodie) Rogers, of Barrington. She was born 1672, died, 1724. He bought, sold and possessed a large amount of property. He was commissioned Lieutenant July, 1710. Colonel, April 25, 1742, by which title he was afterwards known. He had a number of slaves, and long before the Revolution, liberated and settled them in some woodlands in Dartmouth, Mass. There is a ridge of land in that town which was settled almost wholly by negroes who were descendants of the emancipated slaves of Col. Richmond.

Children:	WILLIAM,	b. Oct. 10, 1694	Ichabod	b. Feb. 27, 1704
	Elizabeth	May 10, 1696	Ruth	b. Mar. 7, 1705-6
	Sylvester	June 30, 1698	Hannah	b. July 9, 1709
	Peleg	Oct. 25, 1700	Sarah	b. Oct. 31, 1711
	Perez	Oct. 5, 1702	Mary	b. Nov. 29, 1713
			Rogers	b. May 25, 1716

Hon. William Richmond (4), son of Col. Sylvester Richmond and Elizabeth (Pabodie) Rogers, was born 1694, died February 22, 1770. He married Anna Gray, daughter of Thomas and Anna Gray. (See Gray Family.) He was assistant to the Governor from 1733 to 1755. He was a Judge and instrumental in locating the line securing Little Compton to Rhode Island. Town Clerk in 1731.

Children:	Barzillai	b. Apr. 13, 1721	Ichabod	b. Oct. 18, 1731
	Ephraim	b. May 5, 1723	Thomas	b. Dec. 13, 1733
	Elizabeth	b. Feb. 26, 1725	Mary	b. Dec. 26, 1735
	William	b. Aug. 20, 1727	Sarah	b. Jan. 8, 1738
	Perez	b. Oct. 13, 1728	Sylvester	b. Oct. 7, 1740
			ABIGAIL,	b. Feb. 26, 1744

The record of Col. Sylvester Richmond (4) brother of Judge William Richmond although he is not in our direct line, is very interesting. He commanded the 6th Massachusetts Regiment in the campaign against Louisberg and for his bravery at that time, was invited to England to receive the thanks of the Crown. He

declined for himself but sent his son, who received a commission. He sympathized heartily and deeply with the Colonies in their struggles and felt painfully grieved when one of his sons, who had been an officer under the King, refused to join the Revolutionary army. He said if he were ten years younger (being 77) he should not be at home at that time. His house and farm was on the north slope of Richmond Hill and the ruins are there still.

Col. William Richmond, son of Hon. William Richmond and brother of Abigail Richmond, who married Capt. Peter Pitts, was a Colonel in the Revolution and Colonel of State Brigade in 1776. He was an ardent patriot. He was not our direct line.

Judge Perez Richmond, son of Hon. William Richmond, b. 1728-9 married Mercy Church. Held various town offices, a leading and influential citizen; Judge of Probate Court and President of Town Council; he lived for 50 years opposite the head of Meeting House Lane, on the place "lately owned by Fred R. Brownell." He was killed by a fall from his horse. Children: Sarah, Ruth, Elizabeth, who married Isaac Hathaway, a pioneer of Farmington, N. Y.; Mary, Thomas, Benjamin, Anna, Charles, Mary, Hannah.

Abigail Richmond (5), daughter of Hon. William Richmond married Capt. Peter Pitts, of Dighton, Mass., in 1764. They had eleven children born in Dighton, Mass. (See Pitts Genealogy.) They later moved to Honeoye, N. Y., where Capt. Pitts was one of the first pioneers of Ontario County. Children: Gideon, William, Samuel, Peter, Abigail, Philip, Rebecca, Nancy, Hannah, Phebe, Sarah.

The following were probably the children of Col. William Richmond, brother of Abigail Richmond:

Hannah Richmond married her cousin William Richmond Pitts, son of Peter Pitts and Abigail Richmond. He died in 1815. "They moved soon after their marriage to Pittstown," now Richmond, N. Y. She was one of the best of women. Their children were: Perez Richmond Pitts, Hannah Pitts, and Abby Richmond Pitts.

George B. Richmond, brother of Hannah Richmond, lived in Livonia, N. Y. His daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, married George O. Bosley.

Samuel Pitts, son of Capt. Peter Pitts, married Deborah, sister of Hannah Richmond. They lived in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Susanna Richmond, sister of Deborah, married Charles Fowler, of Livonia, N. Y.

GRAY FAMILY

Edward Gray came from Westminster, London, to Plymouth with his brother, Thomas, in 1643. The oldest stone on Burial Hill, Plymouth, is that of Edward Gray, which has this inscription: "Here lyeth ye body of Edward Gray, Gent. aged about 52 years, and departed this life ye last of June, 1681."

Edward Gray married, first, 1651, Mary Winslow. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Chilton) Winslow. Born 1630, died 1663. Their children were Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah and John.

Edward Gray married, second, December 12, 1665, Dorothy Lettice. She was the daughter of Thomas and Ann Lettice. Born 1648, died 1728. Thomas Gray, son of Edward Gray and Dorothy Lettice, married Anna——, born, 1673, died 1706.

Anna Gray, daughter of Edward and Anna Gray married Hon. William Richmond, of Little Compton, R. I.

Edward Gray was a merchant of Plymouth, and both he and his son Thomas were considered wealthy men for those days. In his will Thomas gave his daughter, Anna Richmond, the mulatto girl "Almy," a gold ring, silver spoon and Bible.

CHAPTER II

THE PITTS FAMILY IN MASSACHUSETTS

"On the 9th of November, 1621, the "Fortune," a vessel of 55 tons, arrived at Plymouth with 35 passengers, having sailed from London early in July." A William Pitt was among them. Early in 1624 allotments of land in Taunton, Mass., were made and William Pitts received 'two acres'. In the division of cattle in 1627 his name does not appear and the record reads: "either removed or died before 1627."

No record has been found showing that this William Pitts was the ancestor of the Pitts family of which we are descendants, but by comparing the dates given below it will be seen that it is very probable he was the father of the first Peter Pitts.

In 1643 the name of Peter Pitts first appears in the first Roster of Taunton, Mass., which was sent to Plymouth as a record of "all the males able to bear arms from 16 years old to 60 years." In 1638 was formed the first military company against the Indians. "This was not in preparation of war, but only a practical act of the old adage, " in time of peace prepare for war."

October 17, 1651, "It is ordered that Peter Pitts shall be sufficiently accommodated with some convenient tract of land in lieu of 4 acres on the further side of the Great River, which said 4 acres is appointed to Frances Smith."

The next record is of April, 1682, of another Roster for the guidance of members to carry their arms to Meeting on the Lord's Day. On this list are the names of Peter Pitts, Sr., and his son Samuel Pitts. "The Court order is that every soldier bring his arms fixed to Meeting when it is his turn, with six charges of powder and shot, and if any refuse or neglect to perform therein, to be fined two shillings and ten pence, if it appear to be contempt." In 1682 the company numbered 134 soldiers. In the Rosters of following years and in expeditions against the Indians, the records continually show the names of Peter, Samuel and Ebenezer Pitts, as well as other Pitts.

The name of Peter Pitts appears among the list of original inhabitants of Taunton in 1659, when he had 55 acres of land. In 1680

his name again appears and land is allotted to him. In 1672-1684 land was purchased from the Indians and known as "The South Purchase." Peter and Samuel Pitts were among the purchasers, and following this the name of Pitts appears among the prominent families of Dighton, Mass. before the Revolution.

PITTS FAMILY

PETER PITTS (1) married Mary (Andrews) Hodges, about April 2, 1654. She was daughter of Henry Andrews and wife of William Hodges.

Children:

Samuel Pitts	(2) b. 1655	d. 1696	m. Mar. 25, 1680, Sarah Bobbitt.
Mary Pitts	(2) b. 1657	d. 1727	m. Mar. 17, 1686, Isaac Hathaway.
Sarah Pitts	(2)		

PETER PITTS(2)		d. 1756	m. Mar. 11, 1702, Bethia Robinson.
Alice Pitts	(2)		m. Apr. 30, 1703, John Wilbur.
Ebenezer Pitts (2)		d. 1733	m. Elizabeth daughter of John and Elizabeth Haskins.

Samuel Pitts (2) b. 1655, married Sarah Bobbitt, who married second Samuel Blake.

Children:

Samuel Pitts	(3)	married Rebecca Williams, May 14, 1712, buried in Dighton.	
Henry Pitts	(3)		
Peter Pitts	(3)		
Col. Ebenezer	(3)	(First Selectman of Dighton)	
Sarah Pitts	(3)		
Mary Pitts	(3)		
Abigail Pitts	(3)	married John Sanford, July 1, 1713.	

PETER PITTS (2) b.—d. 1756, married Bethia Robinson, daughter of Increase Robinson and Sarah Penniman.

Children:

CAPT. PETER PITTS (3) married Abigail Richmond, (Our Ancestors.)

Josiah Pitts	(3)	
Sarah Pitts	(3)	married Lawrence
Bethia Pitts	(3)	

CAPT. PETER PITTS (3) married Abigail Richmond, daughter of Hon. William Richmond and Anna Gray.

Children:

They had eleven children, viz: Gideon, William, Samuel, Peter, Abigail, Philip, Rebecca, NANCY, Hannah, Phebe, Sarah, all born in Dighton, Mass. In 1790 Capt. Pitts, with his large family, moved to Ontario County, New York State. For further records, see Pitts Family in New York State.

Ebenezer Pitts	(2) d. 1773, married Elizabeth Haskins
children:	
Elizabeth Pitts	(3) married John Paul.
Mercy Pitts	(3) married Samuel Andrews.
Hopetill Pitts	(3) married Nathaniel Talbot.

ANDREWS FAMILY

Henry Andrews, wife Mary———, was one of the first purchasers of Taunton, Mass. He was deputy in 1639 and in other years. In his will, dated March 13, 1652, he gives his daughter, Mary, wife of William Hodges, a dwelling house. The Andrews family was one of the most prominent of the early families of Taunton.

Mary Andrews, daughter of Henry Andrews, married first William Hodges. He died in 1654, leaving two sons, John and Henry. After providing for her two sons from William Hodges' estate, she married Peter Pitts, (1) "soon after Apr. 2, 1654."

ROBINSON FAMILY

William Robinson first appears in New England records in 1636, a freeman in 1642, and on rolls of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co." of Boston, the following year. He married, 1st Margaret, 2nd Ursula, widow of Samuel Hosier. He died July 6, 1668. "He was drawn through by the cog wheel of his mill and was torn to pieces and slain." His widow married in 1673 Griffin Crafts, for her fourth and last husband.

Children:

Samuel

Increase m. Feb. 19, 1663, Sarah Penniman

Prudence had sons William and Ebenezer

Waiting had daughter Bethia Robinson, who married PETER PITTS (2)

DIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS

"It may be justly claimed that Bristol Co., Mass., made the first actual war movement of the Revolution, antedating the Battle of Lexington by ten days. On the 9th of April, 1775, an expedition was planned to march to seize Assonet Village, (Freetown) under Col. Dagget of Attleboro, to seize arms and ammunition and capture royalists said to be harboring there. Most of the body of this expedition were from Attleboro and vicinity. They captured, substantially, without bloodshed, 40 stand of arms, a quantity of ammunition, and a number of men were compelled to swear allegiance to the patriot cause."

"The old town of Dighton acted promptly in repudiating the purchase of British manufactures. On December 26, 1774, a committee was appointed "to carry into execution the resolves of the Continental Congress." Sylvester Richmond, 3rd, and Peter Pitts were on this committee. Minute men were raised in 1775 and the customary moneys raised for war purposes. On May 20, 1776, (Some weeks previous to the Declaration of Independence) it was voted "that if ye honorable Congress should, for the safety of the United Colonies, declare them independent of the King of Great Britain, they, the said inhabitants, will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in this measure." In July, 1775, a bounty of five pounds was voted to volunteers in addition to the bounty provided by the province."

Col. Timothy Walker, of Rehoboth, was in command of a regiment, and Capt. Peter Pitts, of Dighton, a captain under him. "From the time that the British took possession of Rhode Island, December, 1776, until they evacuated it more than two years later, the militia of this town, Rehoboth, and vicinity, were subject to frequent drafts of men and were often called out on alarms. One company, if not more, marched from this town to Rhode Island in October, 1777 and served one month in Spencer's so called secret expedition."

These notes were taken from the History of Taunton.

Record of service of Capt. Peter Pitts in the Revolutionary war. One account records as follows:-

Peter Pitts, of Massachusetts, Captain of Walker's Mass. Regt., May to November, 1775.

Another account is as follows:-

Capt. Peter Pitts, of Col. Timothy Walker's (Bristol Co.,) Regt.
Return of officers, dated May 23, 1775.

Ordered in Provincial Congress, May 24, 1775, that said officers
be commissioned.

Also

Capt. Col. Timothy Walker's Regt.;

Return of Officers for provisions between June 11, 1775 and
July 25, 1775, dated Roxbury.

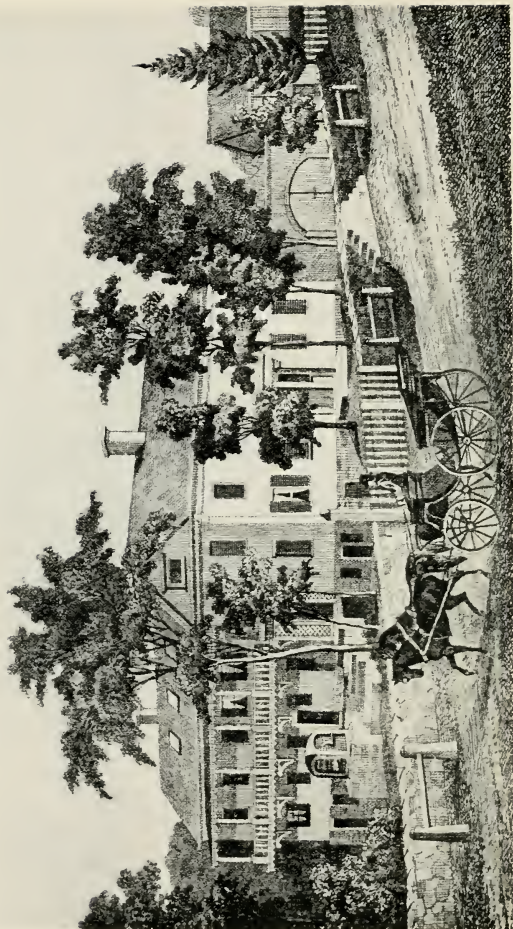
Also

Muster roll, dated Aug. 1, 1775.

Engaged April 24, 1775; Service, 3 mos. 14 days.

Also

Company return dated Oct. 6, 1775; Service of above Company;
General order dated Headquarters, Cambridge, Mass., July 22,
1775, making disposition of the forces about Boston, and dividing
the army into three grand divisions, to consist of two brigades
each; Col. Walker was assigned to a brigade to be commanded
by Brig. Gen. Spencer, which was to form part of a right wing of
the army under Major Gen. Ward, and to be stationed at Roxbury.



RESIDENCE OF HORATIO BENTON
Old Homestead of Ebenezer Benton of Litchfield, Conn., Father of David Benton

CHAPTER III

THE BENTON FAMILY

“Age stealeth much,
Yet doth the hoary thief give us return
When he thus leads us where our fathers stood,
Making us to inhabit their dear souls
And have their days our own.”

“Elizabeth of England.”
Shaler.

For the above quotation and the excellent description of the origin of the Benton Family, the writer is much indebted to Mr. Charles E. Benton, of Rochester, the description being taken from his Benton-Bishop genealogy, also the account of the old Benton home in Guilford.

The Benton Family is of Norman origin, and the English records of it are said to have been traced back to the 12th century. It is early found in the southeast parts of Wiltshire, about fifty miles from Guilford, Surrey County, England, and much of interest regarding the family is found in the history of that place. The following is taken from an account of the family in Kimber & Johnson's "Baronetage of England:"

"Sidney, in his treatise on Government, mentions this family to be of great antiquity; that in name and ancient possessions it equals and is far superior to any of the nobility whose names he enumerates. And indeed it appears, from a very curious pedigree of the family preserved in the Royal Museum, that in the time of Henry II, they were made Knights of St. John of Jerusalem."

The family had several coats of arms. Illustrations of several of them may be seen in "Samuel Slade Benton, His Ancestors and Descendants," by J. H. Benton, Jr. Hinman, in his catalogue of the names of the early colonists of Connecticut, says that the Bentons were descended from the gentry, and were entitled to coats of arms. Charles E. Benton is in possession of an old engraving entitled "Benton Castle," which shows the ruins of an ancient

fortress on Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, on a beautiful small promontory three miles N. N. E. of Pembroke, which is in the extreme southwestern portion of Wales. It is very picturesque but the "castle" has the appearance of having been in ruins for many centuries. The engraving itself was made more than a century ago.

The name is also found engrafted in the names of places, as "Little Benton," "Long Benton," and "Benton Hall," in the county of Northumberland. Bentons also abound in other parts of England, and in Scotland, and though few of the name seem to have come to this country, the family has been widely distributed in the English island. The present spelling of the name is undoubtedly very ancient, but some who have investigated the matter believe that the Boyntons and Bentons were descended from a common ancestry. The names are similar and the arms are almost identical, and both families came from Wiltshire. In some of the old English law reports the name is spelled Boynton, and in some others it is cited as Benton.

"The Bentons of New England are descended from Edward Benton and Andrew Benton. These two were formerly supposed to be brothers, but it now appears that Edward was uncle to Andrew, the latter being the son of Edward's brother, John. Until quite recently nothing was known of the ancestry of the New England Bentons, but thanks to the efforts of Mr. Charles H. Benton, who, though an American, has been engaged in business in London, England, for several years, we are now in possession of some records pertaining thereto. Mr. Benton found the object of his search in the Epping (Essex, England) Parish Registers. The Parish Rector showed him much kindness and gave him free access to the parish records, from which he transcribed all the entries of birth, marriage and burial, relating to the name, enough for a volume in itself. These records have been placed in the hands of Mr. John H. Benton, of Washington, D. C. (a descendent of Andrew) who has also given much study to these genealogical records, he has sorted and compared them with the records which we already had. The result and summary of his investigation is so concise that I give it here:"

"There were two Bentons, Edward and Andrew, uncle and nephew, both born in the Parish of Epping (18 miles northeast of London), in Essex, England, the former in February, 1600, the latter in October, 1620, who came to America in 1638; probably direct to Wethersfield, Conn., and presumably under the auspices of Sir Richard Saltonstall.

In April of the following year, (1639) Andrew Benton was one of the party that came from Wethersfield with the Rev. Peter Prudden,

and with it became a first settler of Milford, ten miles west of New Haven, Conn. And in the same year, or at least as early as 1640, Edward Benton removed from Wethersfield to Guilford, Conn., sixteen miles east of New Haven. That 1638 was the year, and Wethersfield was the place of their arrival in this country, is drawn from the fact of Andrew's coming from that place to Milford as early as April of the following year; and from the additional fact that the Epping registers show that Edward Benton's third son, Edward by name, was baptized there (Epping) January 27, 1638; and the Guilford, Conn. records show that a daughter was born to him at the latter place in September, 1640, and they further state that he was from Wethersfield."

The following is the Benton genealogy in England:
Edward Benton and Joane Holloway, married May 10, 1563.
He was buried Sept. 16, 1605. She was buried Nov. 4, 1599.

Their Children

Joane, bapt. Feb. 13, 1564.
ANDREW, bapt. Dec. 2, 1565.
Edward, bapt. March 19, 1568; buried Nov. 1603.
Elizabeth, bapt. March 12, 1570.
Rachel (no record of bapt.) buried Nov. 3, 1582.
Mathew (no record of bapt.) buried April 3, 1588.

Family of ANDREW BENTON, son of Edward and Joane.
He married Mary——. He died in 1623 or 1625. The register says,
"Marie the widowe of Andrew Benton buried Jan. 3, 1642."

Their Children

John, bapt. 1595.
Andrew, bapt. Jan. 1, 1598.
EDWARD, bapt. Feb. 24, 1600; died at Guilford, Conn. Oct. 28, 1680.
Ralph, bapt. June 13, 1602.
Susan, bapt. March, 10, 1605.
Mary, bapt. Oct. 16, 1608; buried March 6, 1610.
Marie, bapt. Dec. 3, 1612.

Family of John Benton, son of Andrew and Mary
He married Mary Southernwood.
He was buried Feb. 12 1662, and she was buried May 26, 1660.

Their Children

Andrew, bapt. Oct. 15, 1620; died at Hartford, Conn. July 31, 1683.
Thomas, bapt. Aug. 25, 1622.
Marie, bapt. June 29, 1625.
Elizabeth, bapt. Aug. 31, 1628.

This Andrew Benton was the nephew of Edward Benton and they may have come from England together. His tombstone is still standing in the "Old Center Burying Ground, rear of First Christ Church, Hartford.

The records in Hartford have the following, which differs from the record given by Mr. John H. Benton:

"He was probably among those who settled at Watertown in 1630. He married first Hannah Stocking, daughter of George Stocking, of Hartford, who settled first in Cambridge, Mass. and went to Hartford in 1636. Children; John, Hannah, Andrew, Jr., Mary, Samuel Joseph, Dorathy. Married 2nd Anne Cole, Children, Ebenezer, Lydia, Hannah, John.

Anne Cole was said to be bewitched by a neighbor, who was executed.

Family of EDWARD BENTON, son of Andrew and Mary.

This is the Edward Benton who came to this country with his nephew Andrew. He married Jan. 15, 1626, Alice Purden.

Children

Rebecka, bapt. June 8, 1628. (English record.)

DANIEL, (no English record) died June 10, 1672, Guilford Conn. Andrew, (no English record) died Jan. 13, 1714. (Guilford, Conn. record.)

Edward, bapt. Jan. 27, 1638, (English record), died Feb. 19, 1698, Wethersfield.

Hannah, born, Sept. 28, 1640.

Mary, born, Feb. 2, 1642.

John, born June 10, 1643.

Tabitha, born 1645.

Elizabeth, born June 3, 1647.

Sarah, born Nov. 4, 1650.

Zacheus, born Aug. 27, 1652.

The last seven names are from the records of Guilford, Conn.

These English records only take us two generations back of the immigrant EDWARD, to his grandfather of the same name, and give no clue as to which of the historical families he sprung from. So far as can be learned, however, the families who have borne the name in England were of the kind of people that one likes to be descended from, and the probabilities are that our immediate English ancestors of the name were "crestless yeomen," tillers of the soil, who came to this newer England in quest of that higher freedom which was denied them in the land of their birth."

But in coming to New England we are confronted with another record, that of "Anne, wife of Edward Benton," who died at Guilford, Conn., August 22, 1671, not young, for her last child, Zacheus, (if it was hers) was born in 1652. When and where did Alice (Purden) die, which of the eleven recorded children were hers, and which were the children of "Anne?" Alice probably died before Edward came to Guilford, or we should find there a record of her death.

New England Paternal Line

The colonists who settled Guilford, Conn., in the autumn of 1639, came to New Haven on a ship which set sail from London, England, in the preceding May, reaching New Haven in July; it being the first ship direct from England which ever cast anchor in that harbor."

"The sight of ye harbour did so please ye Captain of the Ship and all the passengers that he called it "Fayre Haven."

"As was the case with the Plymouth voyageurs of nineteen years before, the weeks of comradeship in the solitudes of the Atlantic prompted them to draw up for signature a formal compact for mutual assistance and brotherhood, in which they "do faithfully promise, each for ourselves and our families and those that belong to us, that we will, the Lord assisting us, sit down and join ourselves together in one entire plantation and be helpful each to the other in any common work according to every man's ability as need shall require, and we promise not to leave each other or the plantation, but with the consent of the rest, etc."

This "Covenant," which is still preserved, is signed by twenty-five men, heads of families, and though the name of Edward Benton is not among them (it is not supposed, however, that the list includes all in the party who were heads of families,) the names of two other of the ancestors appear in the list, viz., Richard Guttridge, (Goodrich,) and Abraham Cruttenden. The colony had for stanch friends the leaders of both the New Haven and Saybrook plantations, and were thus enabled to soon select and purchase from the Indians lands midway between them. This they did, and the town of Guilford had its beginning in the fall of 1639.

That they were a purely agricultural band was evident from the fact that they found it necessary, as soon as they did "sit down," to engage a mechanic from another colony, and give him a piece of land as an inducement for him to join them. In laying out the town they did what all English colonies that settled in New England did, they set aside for public use a "village green." It is quadrilateral in form, longest north and south, comprising about twelve acres. On it stood the churches and the town hall, and portions of it were also used as a cemetery. During the first half of the last century the buildings, as well as the grave-stones, were removed and the ground was converted into a public park, but all those who died in Guilford previous to that time are buried there. Some of the stones are stored in other cemeteries and some are about the First Congregational Church.

Between "The Green" and the harbor is a broad expanse of areable and very fertile land which became designated as the "Great Plain." To the north of the village is much rough and rocky land, suitable only for pasturage, but having some valleys of tillable land. Each head of a family received a "home lot," for his house and garden and necessary home appurtenances, his plot on the "Great Plain," on which to raise grain, land to the northward for pasturage and wood, and finally a definite portion of the wide-spreading marsh at the borders of the mouth of East River, on which to cut his salt hay. For a long time the "Great Plain" was not fenced at all, but the highway to the harbor was entered by a gate at the southwest corner of "The Green."

Edward Benton had his home lot at the northwest corner of "The Green." It contained two acres, and was bounded on the north by Broad Street. The fact that his home lot was in an advantageous position seems to indicate that he was a member of the colony at the time of its settling; otherwise he would only have found place on one of the side streets.

Thus we find him, having lived four decades in old England, now beginning in New England the last half of his long life, at his new home which looked out on the blue waters of Long Island Sound. Whether he was a "prominent citizen" or not, he was successful in being the sort of a citizen that made New England possible. In those pioneer conditions he brought to manhood and womanhood eight of the ten children recorded to him in America, and according to the times, he was prosperous in a modest way and public spirited, too, for we find that when, in 1650, a canvass was made to ascertain whether a minister could be supported, he professed a willingness to pay his share.

"Goodman Benton," was made a Freeman in 1651, which shows he was at that time a church member. His will, executed March 7, 1675-6, is of interest. It states that "as the holy providence of God hath left the burden of a crippled child upon my hand to be cared for and provided for, Zacheus by name, I do therefore give only the sum of 5 shillings apiece unto my five children—not including Zacheus or Andrew—and to my son Zacheus I give a colt, which he shall choose." Item, "I give to my son Daniel's widow a cow." Lastly all the rest of my estate I give unto my son Andrew Benton, upon condition that he shall duly attend and provide for his brother Zacheus Benton, during the term of his natural life with all the necessities of food and raiment, washing and lodging, suitable for him." Andrew is also made executor.

DANIEL BENTON, son of Andrew, was without doubt born in England, though no official record of his birth has thus far been found. Daniel was married November 23, 1658, to Rachel Goodrich, who died in October 1685, and the births of four children are recorded, one son and three daughters. In 1669 his home lot was one of two and one-half acres in a central position at the north end of "The Green."

Daniel's only son, Ebenezer (3) Benton, was married June 14, 1694, to Abigail Grave, granddaughter of George Grave, and though he was past thirty at the time, yet they lived to enjoy nearly three score years of married life. He inherited the home lot at the north end of "The Green" and this home lot was later transferred to his son Caleb Benton, a brother of the Ebenezer Benton who moved to Litchfield.

This lot in time passed from Caleb to his son Caleb Benton, Jr., and was held by him until he moved to the eastern part of New York State, when he sold it to his cousin Lot Benton, who, in 1814, sold it to the First Congregational Church, who were in need of a site on which to move their church building, that until then had stood upon "The Green."

Ebenezer had come to manhood's estate at a time when the colony, established in privation and hardship, had attained to a comfortable prosperity, and during that era there were many substantial houses built, which still remain. They were, for the most part, marked exteriorly by the capacious fireplaces of the time, and the immense projecting posts and beams. Ebenezer built one of these houses, a massive, two-story structure, pretentious and ornate for its day on the lot at the end of "The Green." But when the lot passed to the possession of the Church the house was moved to the harbor a mile distant, where it still stands, bearing a somewhat meditative and lonesome aspect in its incongruous surroundings. The fine well of water which was at the homestead is now accessible in the basement of the Church, and in the same apartment are stored the gravestones of Ebenezer and his wife, on which the name is spelled "Bentun", according to a fad which he followed, though neither his ancestors or his descendants—or even his wife—spelled it in that way.

He is frequently mentioned in the records of the town, both in deeds and other documents, generally with the prefix "Ensign," with its various abbreviations. He is put down in 1690 as having served in the Indian wars but after a time he tired of public service, and on October 12, 1727, he resigned his position as Ensign, because

"old and infirm." Yet he lived thirty-one years afterward, to the age of ninety-five. From papers preserved in the family it is evident that he spent his last years with his son Caleb, who took the home place.

Of his descendents of the name, some remained in Guilford, while some settled early in Litchfield, Conn., Berkshire County, Mass., Vermont, New York and New Jersey, from which places they swept westward with the tide of the race."

EBENEZER BENTON, son of the Ebenezer above mentioned, and brother of Caleb Benton, married Esther Cruttenden November 3, 1725. He must have moved to Litchfield soon after his marriage as the birth of their first child is recorded in Litchfield, South Farms, Nathaniel, Born August 12, 1726.

The following deed is the only record of his migration to Litchfield that I have found.

"Deed of Eben Benton, land bought of Samuel Orton."

"Know ye that Samuel Orton of Litchfield for divers good considerations—for and in consideration of thirteen hundred pounds in money well and truly paid by Lieutenant Ebenezer Benton of North Guilford, in the Co. of New Haven, have given, granted, sold, etc. to above Eben Benton, his heirs, assigns, forever, a certain tract of land lying and being situate at a place commonly known by the name of Woodbury, still in S. Litchfield, containing by estimation one hundred acres, being a hundred acre lot which I bought of Samuel Algur as by deed on record—To have and to hold the above granted premises with the appurtenances and privileges thereto belonging or in anyway appertaining to his own proper use, benefit and behoof forever, and that the said Eben Benton, his heirs, etc. may by virtue of these presents from time to time and at all times forever after the ensealing hereof lawfully, peaceably and quietly use, improve, occupy, possess and enjoy the same—In witness whereof I have hereto set my hands and affixed my seal the sixteenth day of April in the 25th year of His Majesties Reign, George the 2nd, 1752.

Signed, sealed and delivered, Samuel Orton, Seal.

BENTON GENEALOGY IN AMERICA

EDWARD BENTON, b. in the Parish of Epping, in Essex, Eng.,
Feb. 24, 1600.

d. at Guilford, Conn., Oct. 28, 1680.

married 1st, in Essex, Eng., Jan. 15, 1626, Alice Purden.

" 2nd, Anne——— d. Guilford, Conn., Aug. 22, 1671.

Family of EDWARD BENTON

- Rebecka Benton, bapt. in England, June 8, 1628.
DANIEL BENTON, b. in England. d. Guilford, Conn., June 10, 1672. married Nov. 23, 1658, RACHEL GOODRICH, or Guttridge. d. Oct. 1685.
Andrew Benton, b. in England. d. Guilford, Conn., Jan. 13, 1714. married Feb. 4, 1665, Elizabeth Rolph, d. Oct. 29, 1713.
Edward Benton, bapt. Essex, Eng., Jan. 27, 1638. d. Wethersfield, Conn. Feb. 1698.
Mary, his wife, died Aug. 8, 1702 aged 59 years.
Hannah Benton, b. Guilford, Conn., Sept. 28, 1640. married Robert Ackerly.
Mary Benton, b. Guilford, Conn., Feb. 2, 1642. married Samuel Thorp, Dec. 6, 1666.
John Benton, b. Guilford, Conn., June 10, 1643. Died young.
Tabitha Benton, b. Guilford, Conn., 1645. married Simeon Simpson, Nov. 27, 1684.
Elizabeth Benton, b. Guilford, Conn., June 3, 1647, d. April 3, 1654.
Sarah Benton, b. Guilford, Nov. 4, 1650. d. Dec. 25, 1692. married Thomas Wright. (Sarah Benton also married Moses Blackly.)
Zacheus Benton, b. Guilford Conn., Aug. 27, 1652. Died single.

Family of DANIEL BENTON and RACHEL (GOODRICH) BENTON

- Joanna Benton, b. Oct. 8, 1660. d. Dec. 28, 1692.
EBENEZER BENTON, b. 1663. d. Jan. 22, 1758. married June 14, 1694, ABIGAIL GRAVE, b. Mar. 6, 1670. d. April 13, 1753.
Bethia Benton, b. 1665. married —Sanford.
Rebecca Benton, b. Sept. 14, 1671. married Joseph Halsey.

Family of EBENEZER BENTON (1) and ABIGAIL (GRAVE) BENTON

- Daniel Benton, b. June 1, 1695. d. Aug. 25, 1756. married Elizabeth Norton.
Elizabeth Benton, b. June 22, 1697. married Samuel Buell.
EBENEZER BENTON (2) b. June 12, 1700. d. Feb. 11, 1776. married Nov. 3, 1725, ESTHER CRUTTENDEN, b. 1700. d. April 24, 1778.
Abigail Benton, b. Dec. 29, 1702. d. April 27, 1785. married Ebenezer Cruttenden.
Caleb Benton, Sr., b. July 25, 1706. d. Nov. 27, 1782. married 1st, Sept. 25, 1740, Sarah Stone, b. Jan. 22, 1717. d. Feb. 17, 1746. married 2nd, Oct. 13, 1751, Thankful Chittenden, b. 1716. d. Jan. 12, 1757. married 3rd, Dec. 1, 1760, (widow) Lucy (Munger) Hall, b. Sept. 10, 1713.

FAMILY of LIEUTENANT EBENEZER BENTON (2)
and ESTHER (CRUTTENDEN) BENTON

Nathaniel,	b.	in Litchfield, Aug. 12, 1726.	d.	Sept. 15, 1800.
EBENEZER (3)	b.	Apr. 29, 1728, (born on the farm)	d.	Oct. 31, 1813, ae. 85. m. Mar. 19, 1761, Ama Hosford, b. 1739. d. May 17, 1827.
Stephen,	b.	Feb. 14, 1731.		
	m.	Widow Hannah Camp.		
Timothy,	b.	Dec. 15, 1732.	d.	Nov. 23, 1807.
	m.	Rachel Forbes.		
Bela,	b.	Oct. 19, 1734.	d.	Nov. 13, 1753.
Jonah,	b.	Sept. 1, 1736.		
Seth,	b.	June 17, 1739.	d.	Sept. 24, 1814.
	m.	Catherine Lyman.		
Ruth,	b.	Feb. 2, 1742.		
	m.	James Thompson.		
Rachel,	b.	Jan. 26, 1743.		
	m.	James Cole.		

This is the family of the Lieut. Ebenezer Benton who moved from Guilford, Conn., to Litchfield, South Farms, Conn. and bought the farm of 100 acres.

Family of EBENEZER (3) BENTON and AMA (HOSFORD)
BENTON

Mary,	b.	May 16, 1763.		
	m.	Samuel Barnard, Jr.		
Ebenezer, Jr.	b.	Dec. 5 1766.	d.	Jan. 6, 1849.
	m.	Lois Farnum, Mar. 29, 1790.		
DAVID, (4)	b.	Sept. 4, 1768.	d.	Sept. 30, 1803; Went to Livonia, N. Y. before 1796. See N. Y. Record.
	m.	NANCY PITTS, daughter of PETER PITTS of DIGHTON, MASS.		
Amos,	b.	June 13, 1771.	d.	Feb. 25, 1841.
	m.	Rachel Catlin.		
Sarah,	b.	April 24, 1773.	m.	Wm. Orvis, of Farmington.
Ama,	b.	May 4, 1780.	m.	Isaac Chamberlain
Cynthia,	b.	Nov. 30, 1783.	m.	Amos Tolles.
Lois,	b.	July 2, 1765.	m.	Daniel Lamson, June 7, 1784.

Will of EBENEZER (3) BENTON

"In the first place I resign my soul to God who gave it and my body to the grave in a decent Christian burial—all debts to be paid and claims collected.

I will and bequeath to my beloved wife, Ama, the use and improvement of one-third of all my real estate in lands during her natural life, and the use and improvement of the whole of my dwelling house which I now possess, and which now consists of one-half of same to my son Amos.

Also I give to my said wife my large Bible and my best looking-glass and then to same one-third of my personal estate, to be hers forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to Chauncey and Benton Barnard, my two grandsons by my daughter, Mary Barnard, late deceased \$100.00, only to be paid out of my personal estate within three years after my decease.

Item. I give and bequeath the remainder of my estate after paying above legacies, to my children, viz.

To Ebenezer Benton, Jr.; David Benton's heirs, Amos Benton, Lois Lamson, Sarah Orvis, Ama Chamberlain and Cynthia Tolles, in following manner and proportion—that is to say—to each of my said sons in proportion as two is to one. Each son is to take the value of \$2 where each daughter takes the value of one dollar; or, to make it more explicit, if my estate were divided into 10 parts, my son is to have 2 parts, my son David's heirs 2 parts and my son Amos 2 parts, and to each of my forementioned daughters 1 part—one son is to have as much as two daughters; and, whereas, my sons Ebenezer and Amos Benton did during the lifetime of my son David purchase of my son David all his right and title to my estate, and did obtain of him a quit claim deed to any part of my estate at my decease, I did debar him and his heirs of any part thereof, none of my estate to be given to his heirs, but after ascertaining what would be his part, it is to be taken by my two sons Eben and Amos, it being their right by purchase.

28 May, 1812.

Ebenezer Benton (seal)

"Inventory of Ebenezer Benton's property.

Land, houses, etc.	\$7205.55
Personal Estate	1751.03
	\$8956.58

Paid to heirs March 22, 1814.	
Ebenezer Benton, Jr.	\$168.00
David Benton	816.00
Lois Farnum	177.46
Sally Orvis	199.45
Amy Chamberlain	390.00
Cynthia Tolles	166.61

Family of Ebenezer Benton, Jr. (4) and Lois Farnum

Leman	b. Nov. 19, 1790	Polly,	b. Mar. 9, 1792.
Joel	b. Jan. 22, 1794.	Erastus,	b. Dec. 20, 1795,
			m. Ama Rea.
David,	b. Sept. 20, 1800.	Nancy,	b. August 17, 1803.
Daniel Lamson	b. Jan. 14, 1805	married Margaret	Frisbie.
Seth Farnum	b. Nov. 8, 1809.	Lydia	b. Aug. 22, 1812.

Family of DAVID BENTON and NANCY PITTS

David Benton went to New York State before 1796 and there married Nancy Pitts, daughter of Capt. Peter Pitts, who with his large family had come to Richmond, N. Y.

The children of David Benton and Nancy Pitts were
Phebe W. Benton, married Adolphus Watkins of Lima, N. Y.
Gideon Pitts Benton

Mary Benton married John Gould.

Ebenezer Benton married Lavinia Freeman, of Pultneyville, N. Y.

Family of Amos Benton and Rachel Catlin

Julia	b. Mar. 27, 1797.		
Geo. Baldwin	b. July 6, 1805.	d. Sept. 11, 1854.	
	m. Hannah Farnum,	Sept. 8, 1829.	
		d. May 15, 1888.	
Horatio	b. Aug. 24, 1811	m. Oct. 3, 1832,	Julia Weed.
Sarah	b. June, 1816.		

Family of Lois Benton and Daniel Lamson

Daniel Lamson, b. Mar. 28, 1755, died Oct. 6, 1852, aged 98 years.
married first Lois Benton, June 17, 1784. She died Feb. 8, 1833,
aged 68 years.

married second Widow Ama Rhea, June 1, 1833, d. Aug. 5, 1856.

Her first husband was Erastus Benton, b. Dec. 20, 1795. He was a nephew of Lois Benton. Ama Rhea was daughter of Wm. Rhea of Marblehead, Mass. and Hannah Gibbs.

Children:

Lois Octavia Lamson, born Apr. 12, 1834.

An account of a celebration in Litchfield, Conn., has the following "Among the venerable men of other days we noticed on the platform Daniel Lamson, of Litchfield, aged ninety-seven, a hero of the Revolution."

Family of George Baldwin Benton and Hannah (Farnum) Benton.

Amos, Jane and Phebe. None of these children were married. Phebe Benton is still living in the old homestead of her Father, George Baldwin Benton. Her grandfather, Amos Benton, was a brother of David Benton.

Family of Horatio Benton and Julia (Weed) Benton

Mrs. Catlin

Mrs. Schemerhorn

Mrs. Deming

Mrs. Charles Miller, of Waterbury, Conn.

The writer did not obtain the births, given names, etc. of these children.

We were told, however, by Mr. Amos Benton, that a large part of the old Benton farm was owned at one time by Horatio Benton. He was a very well known man thereabouts, and "hail fellow well met," with everybody. From a cast made of his head he appeared to be a typical Benton, as we knew them.

His property became involved and was purchased by his daughter, Mrs. Schemerhorn. She attempted to make an exclusive summer resort of the place, and numerous houses were built. It did not, however, prove to be the success that it at first promised. Now the property has been sold to a Mr. White, of Litchfield, Conn. The fine old home which was still standing a few years ago, has been demolished. Mrs. Miller still retains a portion of the estate.

CHAPTER IV

THE HATCH FAMILY IN NEW ENGLAND

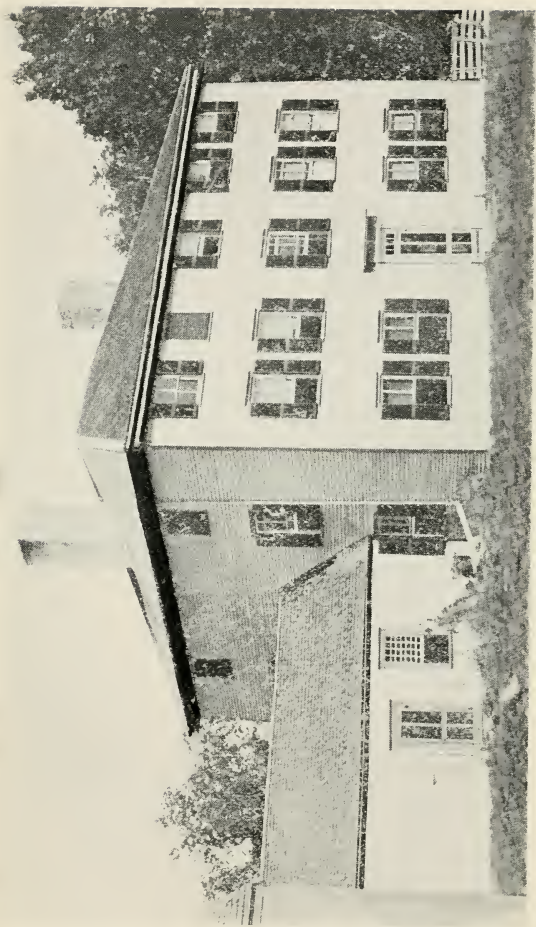
Opposite is a picture of the old Pownalboro Court House as it now appears in Dresden. It is a somewhat prominent object standing upon the eastern bank of the Kennebec river, nearly opposite to Iceboro in Richmond. In this building the courts for Lincoln county were held when the province of Maine had but three counties and Lincoln comprised all of Maine's territory east of Cumberland. This of course included the present Sagadahock.

This quaint old structure, built without any pretensions to architectural beauty, has many historical memories of great interest which cluster about it. Indeed, it requires no great stretch of the historical imagination to connect it with some of the most important events in New England history, as follows:—

1621, King James I. of England granted New England to the Council of Plymouth, in Devon, England. From this Council the Pilgrims received their patent at Plymouth, in what is now Massachusetts. Soon after their landing an Eastern Indian welcomed them and he probably told them of a better country "down east" for they immediately began to trade with the coast of Maine, and applied for a patent here, in order that their plantation might subsist. In response to this application in

1629, The Council of Plymouth granted a tract fifteen miles in depth on both sides of Kennebec river to William Bradford, second governor of New Plymouth, and his associates. Bradford assigned this to the Colony of New Plymouth. Because of trouble with the French and Indians, in 1661 the Colony of New Plymouth conveyed the Kennebec tract to Antipas Boyes, Edward Tyng, Thomas Brattle, and John Winslow for four hundred pounds. This was known as the Kennebec Purchase. The patent lay dormant for 88 years, when in

1749, Samuel Goodwin of Charlestown and others associated themselves together as heirs and assigns of Boyes and his associates, and formed in Boston a company which they called Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase from the late Colony of New Plymouth and after surveying their lands in



OLD POWNALBORO COURT HOUSE
Built in Dresden in 1761 by the Plymouth Co.

1752, These Proprietors, known in after years as the Plymouth Company brought a company, consisting chiefly of Huguenots, and began a plantation between Kennebec and Eastern rivers which they called Frankfort. They also built a defensive house on the bank of the Kennebec river, naming it Fort Shirley.

In 1760, Lincoln county was organized and Frankfort, Swan Island, and the settlements on the west bank of Sheepscot river, now Alna and Wiscasset, were incorporated as Pownalboro and made the shire town of new county. In

1761, the Plymouth Company erected the court house within the parade of Fort Shirley, the last blockhouse of which was taken down in 1817.

John Adams attended court there in 1765, Governor and historian James Sullivan argued his first case there. William Cushing, afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, lived in Pownalboro, and attended court in this building. John Gardiner, son of the founder of the city of Gardiner, and known as the Law Reformer, frequently attended court here. Robert Auchmuty the younger, who was associated with John Adams in the defense of Capt. Preston at the time of the "Boston Massacre" was also attorney here, as were the Quincys and Sewalls, and possibly Theophilus Parsons.

The Plymouth Company comprised among its members such names as Gardiner, Hancock, Bowdoin, Bayard, Pitts, Valentine, and many others of note.

The old Court House is now occupied as a dwelling by Captain Samuel R. Goodwin, great grandson of Samuel Goodwin mentioned in 1749 as one of the Proprietors.

C. E. Allen.

The above account of the History of Dresden, Maine, and the picture of the old Court House, were published by Charles E. Allen of Dresden, a number of years ago, and a copy of the same was presented by him to the writer, whose father, Warren A. Hatch, grandfather, Thomas Hatch, and great-grandfather, Ebenezer Hatch, were born in Dresden, at what is now called Hatch's Corners, South Dresden. Their ancestor, Simeon Hatch, a Revolutionary soldier came to Dresden from Falmouth, Mass., at the close of the Revolution.

THE HATCH FAMILY IN MASSACHUSETTS

Our ancestor, Thomas Hatch, came from Sandwich, England, in Gov. Winthrop's fleet in 1630. He settled first in Dorchester, Mass.; was made freeman in Boston, May 14, 1634; was proposed freeman of Yarmouth, Mass., January 7, 1638-9; was member of church in Barnstable June 1, 1641. He died in 1661, leaving a widow, Grace. He had two children, viz.: Jonathan, "his only son," born about 1625 in England, and Lydia, also born in England, who married Henry Taylor, of Barnstable, December 19, 1650.

Jonathan Hatch moved to Falmouth soon after the death of his father. The earliest of the Proprietor's records of Falmouth are dated November 19, 1661, and in the first entry is found the following:

"An Agreement for laying out the lands in Suconessett (the old Indian name for Falmouth.) "We, whose names are hereunder written have agreed for ourselves and for who any of us are agents, for laying out of lands in Suconessett; First, the neck of land lying by the Herring Brook shall be in general; Second, Jonathan Hatch and Isaac Robinson, because they have built their houses, shall have the lots by their houses, etc."

This Isaac Robinson was the son of Rev. John Robinson, Pastor of the Plymouth Colony, who remained in Holland.

Jonathan Hatch (2) from Barnstable had lands in Falmouth in 1660; a house built there soon after. He had seven children born in Barnstable and four in Falmouth. He married Sarah Rowley at Barnstable April 11, 1646.

Children:

Mary	b. 1647	Samuel	b. Oct. 11, 1659.
Thomas	b. Jan. 21, 1648-9.	Moses	b. Mar. 4, 1663.
Jonathan	b. May 17, 1652.	Sarah	b. 1664.
Joseph	b. Mar. 7, 1654.	Mark	b. Apr. 27, 1667.
Benjamin	b. Sept. 7, 1655.	Lydia	b. 1669.
Nathaniel	b. June 5, 1657.		

Thomas Hatch (3) born January 21, 1648-9. married Abigail Codman, of Barnstable, July 22, 1679.

Children:

Thomas Hatch	(4) b. 1685.	Beriarith (?)	b. 1695
Sarah Hatch	(4) b. 1687.	Mary	b. 1697.
Simeon Hatch	(4) b. 1689.	Jonathan	b. 1698.
Nathaniel Hatch	(4) b. 1693.	Peter	b. 1700.

Thomas Hatch (4) born 1685, married Mary——

Children:

Silas Hatch	(5) b. 1711.	Eunice	b. 1721.
Robert	(5) b. 1713.	Paul	not recorded.
Jane Hatch	(5) b. 1716.	Phebe	not recorded.
Miriam Hatch	(5) b. 1718.	Solomon	not recorded.

Paul Hatch (5) son of Thomas (4) married Temperance Davis in 1748.

Children:

Fear Hatch (6)	b. Jan. 14, 1749.	Ephraim	b. Sept. 17, 1758.
Davis Hatch	b. May 21, 1751.	Sebrey	b. Nov. 29, 1760.
Cebes Hatch	b. Mar. 20, 1753.	Isaac	b. May 3, 1765.
Simeon (Probably)	1755.	Temperance	b. July 12, 1767.
Paul	b. Oct. 8, 1756.		

Jonathan Hatch (3) son of Jonathan Hatch (2), born May 17, 1652. married Abigail or Elizabeth Weeks in Barnstable Dec. 4, 1676.

Children: Jonathan (4) born 1678. married Berthiah Nye.

Children: Simeon (5), Ebenezer, Nathan, Moses and Benjamin.

Sarah (4) born 1682.

Mehitable (4) born 1684.

Mary (4) born 1689.

Nathaniel (4) born 1693.

Ebenezer (4) born 1696.

Ebenezer Hatch (4) born in 1696, married first Lydia Hatch (4).

She was the daughter of Samuel Hatch (3) and his own cousin.

Children:

Jethro (5) born 1721. Lois born 1729.

Dorcas born 1723. Martha born 1732.

Reliance born 1726.

Ebenezer Hatch (4) married second Hannah Davis in 1733.

Children; Rebecca born 1734, Abigail, born 1737.

Jethro Hatch (5) married first Mary Howland, of Sandwich, Mass. 1746., second Hannah Clark, of Falmouth, 1751.

Children:

Jethro (6) (of Bowdoinham, Me.) b. 1756, d. 1792, ae. 36 yrs.

The following is taken from the inscriptions on gravestones in the cemetery on what was formerly the farm of Jethro Hatch, of Decker's Hill, Bowdoinham, Me.

Samuel Hatch (7) b. 1784, d. July 22, 1829, ae 45..

Children (probably)

Miss Betsey Hatch, b. 1812. d. Feb. 28, 1832, ae. 20.

Melinda " b. 1814. d. Oct. 6, 1848, ae. 34.

Ebenezer Hatch b. 1785. d. Dec. 23, 1838, ae. 53.

wife

Polly Hatch b. 1797, d. July 13, 1862, ae. 75.

Children; Getchell, drowned; Gilbert, died in Cadiz.

HATCH Family History in South Dresden, Maine.

SIMEON HATCH, our ancestor in Maine, was born in Falmouth, Mass. in 1755. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, the record of his service being given below.

married

Jemima Pease, b. June 12, 1755, in Edgartown, Mass., d. Dresden, Jan. 17, 1837.

Children:

EBENEZER HATCH, born Apr. 24. 1780, Falmouth, Mass. d. Dresden, Oct. 1856.

Simeon Hatch, born Sept. 19, 1784, Falmouth, Mass.

Reuben Hatch, born Falmouth, Mass. d. Dresden, Sept. 27, 1860.

Record of Service of Simeon Hatch in the Revolutionary War

Simeon Hatch, Private, Capt. John Grannis' Co., enlisted July 6, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775. 6 mos. 11 days; company stationed at Elizabeth Islands.

Also Capt. John Russell's Co., marched Aug. 22, 1776; service to Sept. 30, 1776, 1 mo. 8 days; company stationed at Martha's Vineyard for defense of sea coast.

Also same company; service from Sept. 30, 1776, to Nov. 22, 1776, 1 mo. 22 days, under Major Bassett; company stationed at Martha's Vineyard for defense of sea coast.

Also Lieutenant Manter's detachment; service from Nov. 20, 1776 to Dec. 31, 1776, 1 mo. 10 days; detachment stationed at Martha's Vineyard.

Also Capt. Samuel Fisher's Co., Col. Nathaniel Freeman's regiment; service 4 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.

PEASE FAMILY

Family History of JEMIMA PEASE of Edgartown, Mass. who married SIMEON HATCH, of Falmouth, Mass. They moved to Dresden, Maine.

John Pease, ancestor of this family, was probably the leading pioneer of Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

John Pease (1) married Lucy——.

James Pease (2) b. Mar. 15, 1637; m. Elizabeth Norton; died Mar. 27, 1719.

Nathaniel Pease (3) b.—— m. Abigail Vincent who died 1776 ae. 99.

Stephen Pease (4) b.—— m. Jemima Vincent who died 1791 ae. 72.

d. Jan. 27, 1784, ae. 66.

Children of Stephen Pease and Jemima Vincent.

Reuben Reuben

Isaac JEMIMA (who married Simeon Hatch)

Mehitable Samuel

Stephen Enoch



HOME OF WARREN A. HATCH
Remodeled from Old, Original House Built by Simeon Hatch

HATCH GENEALOGY

Simeon Hatch (2) married——. They had one child, Eliza Hatch, who married David Gray.

Reuben Hatch (2) b——d. Sept. 27, 1860. He married Susan Pierce, b. 1779, d. Mar. 4, 1858.

Children:

Samuel Hatch (3) b. 1803, d. Aug. 27, 1849, married Melinda Cogswell.

Children; Mary Frances, b. Oct. 2, 1837; d. Mar. 16, 1912, ae. 74.

David Hatch (3) b. 1805, d. Nov. 20, 1894, married Diana Costello.

Harriet Hatch (3) b. 1809, d. July 28, 1888, married Capt. Webb; Children; Rufus Webb married Betsey Hatch, daughter of Thomas Hatch.

Elizabeth (3) b. 1807, d. Nov. 12, 1886, married Elwell Costello.

Reuben (3) b. 1811, d. Oct. 28, 1888, married Elizabeth Robbins. They had one child, Angie Hatch, b. Oct. 1864, who married Charles Barter.

Elihu (3) b. ——— married Ada Blair. He was born 1820, d. Apr. 16, 1882. Children; Elizabeth, Harriet, Ada and John.

John (3) b. 1815, d. April 20, 1838, ae 23 yrs.

Children of EBENEZER HATCH (2) and Abigail Foster.

Melinda Hatch (3) born Jan. 17, 1803, died July 1852, Wiscasset, Me. Married Dec. 1824——S. Dresden.

Thomas Hatch (3) born Sept. 20, 1804, died Sept. 15, 1889.

Clarissa Hatch (3) born July 30, 1806, died Nov. 13, 1888, married —Patterson.

William Hatch (3) born May 22, 1808, died June 7.

Bradford Hatch (3) born Jan. 20, 1811, died Feb. 28, Bowdoinham.

Ebenezer Hatch (3) born June 20, 1816, died Apr. 10, 1882.

THOMAS HATCH (3) married first, Elmira Lowell, of Wiscasset, Me., second Mary White.

Children of Thomas Hatch and Elmira Lowell:

Levi Hatch (4) b. Bowdoinham, June 10, 1828, d. Feb. 28, 1829.

Betsey Hatch (4) b. Bowdoinham, Feb. 11, 1830, d. Dresden Mills. Married first, Nov. 5, 1860, Rufas Webb, b. Mar. 1, 1831 d. Inverness, Scotland. Married second Oct. 21, 1866, Frances Stilphen, b. Dresden 1813. d. Mar. 5, 1892.

William H. Hatch (4) b. Bowdoinham, July 23, 1831, d. July 29, 1832.

William B. Hatch (4) b. Bowdoinham, Jan. 9, 1833, d. S. Dresden, Oct. 19, 1854.

Warren A. Hatch (4) b. S. Dresden, Feb. 23, 1835, married Helen M. Benton, of N. Y. d. S. Dresden, Feb. 2, 1914.

Lydia Hatch (4) b. S. Dresden, Mar. 20, 1838, married Christopher Patterson, d. Richmond, Me.

They had one child, Myra Patterson, who died at the age of 16 years.

WARREN A. HATCH (4) of South Dresden, Me. married Helen M. Benton, of Livonia, New York. She was a descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, who came to this country in the "Mayflower," in 1620. (See Genealogy on Page 11.)

Children:

Cora B. Hatch (5), b. in Iuka, Ill. May 30, 1860.
married in Vineland, N. J. Mar. 21, 1887 to Frank B. Pollak, b. in Chicago, Ill., June 12, 1855.
They reside in Winthrop, Mass., he having charge of the Railroad Station at Winthrop Beach.

Eva V. Hatch (5) b. Hemlock Lake, N. Y. Mar. 19, 1862.
d. " " " " Apr. 14, 1862.

Edith E. Hatch (5) b. Hemlock Lake, N. Y. Mar. 16, 1863.
married Apr. 12, 1893, William S. Davenport, of Providence, R. I. He was born in Williamstown, Vt. Mar. 14, 1861. He is a manufacturer of machinery and now President and Gen. Mgr. of the Davenport Machine Tool Co., of Rochester, N. Y.

Jennie A. Hatch (5) b. Hemlock Lake, July 14, 1865.
d. in Winthrop, Mass. Jan. 22, 1912.
married in So. Dresden, Me., July 3, 1891.
George F. Smith, b. Lynn, Mass., May 16, 1863. d. Lynn, Mass., Oct. 24, 1908.
He was a teacher of Vocal Music in several Public Schools.

Children:

Helen Alden Smith (6), b. July 26, 1899.
Student at Mt. Holyoke College, S. Hadley, Mass.

William Walter Hatch (5) b. Andover, N.Y. Apr. 25, 1870.
m. Waltham, Mass., Nov. 23, 1896,
Minnie M. Morrison.
He is a painter and builder at Winthrop, Mass.

Children:

Marion G. Hatch (6) b. Winthrop, Mass., Jan. 26, 1898, Stenographer.
Cora Altena Hatch (6) b. Winthrop, Mass., Mar. 7, 1901, Stenographer.
Warren Augustus Hatch (6), Jr. born in Winthrop, Mass. Oct. 27, 1906.

Charles L. Hatch (5) b. Andover, N.Y. Apr. 4, 1872.

married Jennie Johnson, of Lynn, Mass.

For many years he was proprietor of two or more Public Markets in Winthrop; also a large holder of real estate; now owner of two Motion Picture Theatres.

Thomas Augustus Hatch (5), born Andover, N.Y. Nov. 22, 1875.

married Mabel M. Maund of Kingston, Canada, daughter of John & Mary Garland Maund, at Niagara on the Lake, Ont. Can. June 24, 1913.

For about 24 years he was Professor of Manual Training in schools in Cincinnati and Kingston, Can.

Is now Secretary and Treasurer of the Davenport Machine Tool Co., of Rochester, N.Y.

Children:

Helen Mary (6), born in Kingston, Ont. Can. Apr. 9, 1914.

Elizabeth Garland (6), born in Kingston, Ont. Can., May 28, 1915.

Thomas Hatch, his father Ebenezer and brother Eben, also Bradford, of Bowdoinham, were among the prominent men of the towns in which they lived. They were men of strong character, firm opinions and had the courage of their convictions, which always was and still is a prominent trait of this family. Thomas and Ebenezer, and their father before them, were leaders in the Methodist church at Hatch's Corners. They were stern, old-fashioned Methodists, of whom there are all too few in these days. "Father Hatch's" house was a second home to all the Methodist pastors who lived at Dresden Mills, five miles away.

WARREN A. HATCH

Warren A. Hatch married Helen M. Benton of Livonia, N. Y. May 10, 1859 at Salem, Ill.

He was born Feb. 23, 1835, in South Dresden, Maine.

died Feb. 2, 1914, in South Dresden, Maine.

She was born Sept. 7, 1838 in Livonia, N. Y.

died July 26, 1919 in Winthrop, Mass.

Warren A. Hatch, of South Dresden, Maine, went to Illinois when a young man. Here he met Helen M. Benton, of Livonia, N. Y. who was visiting her sister Mrs. William Henry in Salem, Ill. and they were married there. Their first child, Cora, was born in

Iuka, Ill. The climate did not agree with Mrs. Hatch and they removed to her old home in Livonia, N. Y., where three children were born. In 1875 they moved to Andover, N. Y. where he worked at his trade as carpenter and builder; he also had a cooper shop. Here four children were born. In 1877 he removed with his family to South Dresden, Me., to make a home for his aged father, Thomas Hatch. He began at once to make improvements upon the farm, moving and rebuilding the barns, and enlarging the house, which was the first house built by Simeon Hatch at the time of the settlement at the close of the Revolution. Meanwhile he went to Winthrop, Mass. winters, where he built in the following years, many houses for himself and others, in what was then an exclusive summer resort.

At the time of his death he was one of the largest tax payers in the town, and was highly respected by all who knew him as a strictly honest, upright and just man.

When he retired from business he lived on the old homestead in Maine, and attended to his property in Winthrop by frequent visits. After a short illness he died in South Dresden at the age of seventy-nine years, and was buried in the cemetery at Hatch's Corners, where now lie the remains of his father, Thomas Hatch, his grandfather, Ebenezer Hatch and his great-grandfather, Simeon Hatch, who was a soldier in the Revolution and came from Falmouth at its close with his relatives, Paul and Jethro Hatch.

Jethro Hatch came to Maine in 1775 and bought a tract of land in Bowdoinham on the "Decker Hill."

Simeon Hatch came after the close of the war and purchased land directly across the Kennebec River from Bowdoinham, in South Dresden, Maine. He and his son Ebenezer owned land running from the Lower Road near the river, to the Upper Road, and extending back to the farm of Mr. Allen. The first house was built by Simeon Hatch on the "Ledges," overlooking the Eastern River, Swan Island, and the Kennebec River. This house was later moved to the "Upper Road", and was the home of his grandson, Thomas Hatch, later remodelled by Warren A. Hatch.

Simeon Hatch, son of Simeon, lived on what is now called the "David Gray place." He married and had one daughter, Eliza, who married David Gray.

Ebenezer Hatch, son of Simeon, of Falmouth, built a house at Hatch's Corners, opposite the Methodist Church. He married first Abigail Foster, and second Mrs. Lawton. He lived to be a very old man. The farm was divided between his sons Thomas and Ebenezer, the other son, Bradford, settling on the farm in Bowdoinham.

Reuben Hatch, son of Simeon (1) we think lived in South Dresden on the Wiscasset Road; his son Reuben lived there and the old home is still occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Angie Barter.

After the death of Warren A. Hatch, his widow, Helen M. Hatch, continued to live at the old home, until, on recovering from a severe illness, she went with her sister, Mrs. Jennie Rhinevault, to spend the winter with her son Charles L. Hatch, in Winthrop, Mass. While the house was unoccupied, through the carelessness of men in the employ of the Telephone Company who set fire to brush they were cutting on the Lower Road on a terribly windy day, the flames leaped over the fields half a mile away and all the buildings of the old Hatch homestead were burned to the ground, together with the old trees surrounding the house, which had long been a landmark upon the high ridge road.

From the surrounding country for twenty miles men hastened to attempt to save the home of Mrs. Hatch, but it was impossible. Had it not been for the heroic efforts of neighbors and friends, many of whom risked their lives, the children would now not only be without the old home but without a single memorial of the home, but fortunately a greater part of the furniture was saved, with many of the old keepsakes.

Now the old farm stands alone and desolate. The men who tilled it for four generations lie quietly resting in the near by cemetery, and the neat, well kept fields and large orchards bear a mute testimony to the untiring labors of its late owner, Warren A. Hatch.

Mrs. Hatch felt terribly the loss of her home, for although a New Yorker, born and bred, she loved her husband's people, her neighbors and friends, and above all, her church near by on the corner. Later, the furniture was taken to Winthrop, Mass. and a home made for her in one of the apartments owned by Mr. Hatch. Here, close to her children, she lived in the summer months, and with her children in the winter. When preparing for a pleasant summer in June, 1919, she accidentally fell and broke her hip, and, unable to endure the strain of the confinement, she quietly passed away on July 26, 1919.

The funeral services in Winthrop were held at the home of her son, Charles L. Hatch. Accompanied by her children and grandchildren her remains were taken to South Dresden, where, after a funeral service in the church she loved, she was laid to rest by the side of her husband, Warren A. Hatch. She was a loving, devoted Mother to a family of eight children, five of whom are still living. She was a kind neighbor, a devoted Christian and a blessing to the community in which she lived.

LOWELL GENEALOGY

Warren A. Hatch was a descendant of the Lowell Family through his mother, Elmira Lowell, of Wiscasset, Maine.

Percival Lowell (1) came from Bristol, Eng. with his son Richard in 1639 in the ship "Jonathan." They had in Bristol a large mercantile establishment under the name of Percival Lowle & Co. He was born in England in 1571, being 68 years of age when he came to Newbury, Mass. He married Rebecca—— and died in 1664 at the age of 93 years.

Richard Lowell (2) was born in England in 1602, died Newbury, Mass., 1682. m. 1st. in Eng. Margaret——d. Newbury, 1642, m. 2nd in Newbury, Margaret, b. 1604.

Percival Lowell (3) married Mary Chandler, daughter of William Chandler and Mary Fowler, daughter of Phillip Fowler. Mary Fowler was born in Eng. came to Ipswich in 1634.

Capt. Gideon Lowell (4) was a soldier in the first expedition with Canada. He was also a sea Captain. b. in Newbury, Sept. 3, 1672, d. before 1753 in Newbury.

married 1st, July 7, 1692, Miriam Swett, b. 1672, d. 1734, daughter of John Swett and Mary Plummer.

Married 2nd Elizabeth Colby, a widow.

Lieut. John Lowell (5) was born in South Carolina Feb. 1, 1697. died before 1748.

m. in Amesbury Jan. 4, 1722-3 Rachel Sargent, born Amesbury Sept. 4, 1703, d. 1779. She was daughter of Jacob Sargent and G. Davis.

John Lowell (6) was born in Amesbury, Mass., June 20, 1724. d.—— m. 1743 Martha Currier of Amesbury, b.——d. at West Bath, aged 91.

He was at Fort Wm. Henry Aug. 9, and Oct. 12, 1756.

Joseph Lowell (7) b. Amesbury, July 8, 1751, d. Oct. 21, 1832.

m. in Wiscasset, Me. Nov. 7, 1773, Abigail Danforth, who died Aug. 17, 1845, aged 94 years.

Joseph Lowell (8) born in 1775, married Lydia Nason, b. Nov. 27, 1775, daughter of Abraham and Hannah Nason of Wiscasset, Me.

Elmira Lowell (9), daughter of Joseph Lowell (8) married Thomas Hatch of South Dresden, Me. She was from Wiscasset.

Warren A. Hatch (10) was the son of Elmira Lowell and Thomas Hatch. He was born in South Dresden, Feb. 23, 1835.

The Children of Warren Hatch are of the eleventh generation.

The six grand-children of Warren A. Hatch are of the twelfth generation.

HATCH GENEALOGY

EBENEZER HATCH (3) married Margaret Patterson, sister of Chris. Patterson. He lived on the farm of his father Ebenezer Hatch.

Children:

David Hatch (4) married a daughter of Francis Stilphen. He was educated at Kent's Hill, Me. Afterwards moved to California, became a Judge and a prominent man. He had several children.

William Hatch (4) married—He was educated at Kent's Hill and Oberlin, Ohio, preparing for the ministry, but moved to California instead. He had several children.

Henry Hatch (4) married Emma Pushard and lived on the farm which originally belonged to his grand-father. He was also educated at Kent's Hill.

Children:

Ida F. Hatch (5) b. Feb. 20, 1875; m. Nov. 5, 1895, Ulysses G. Gibbs, Wiscasset.

ch. Infant Daughter b. Feb. 24, 1897, d. Feb. 26, 1897.

Walter E. Gibbs, b. Apr. 18, 1898, Wiscasset.

Willard H. Gibbs, b. Aug. 1, 1899, Wiscasset.

Clarence H. Gibbs, May 28, 1908, Wiscasset.

Nellie M. Hatch (5) b. Sept. 7, 1876, m. Sept. 7, 1902, Chas. L. Soule, Woolwich.

ch. Frances E. Soule, b. July 4, 1903, N. Weymouth, Mass.

Carolyn P. Soule, b. Aug. 4, 1904, N. Weymouth, Mass.

Geo. E. Soule, b. July 6, 1906, Melrose, Mass.

Lewis H. Soule, b. July 18, 1910, Lawrence, Mass.

Stella Hatch (5) b. South Dresden. married William Seigars, son of Asbrey and Myra Seigars. They live on the old Seigars homestead.

Amy Hatch (5)

Flora Hatch (5) died while a young girl.

Arthur H. Hatch (5) b. June 3, 1886, married Mary A. Cuthbertson, Dresden.

ch. Hazel E. Hatch, b. Woolwich, Aug. 1, 1911.

Alice E. Hatch, b. Woolwich, Aug. 5, 1913.

Herbert C. Hatch

Herman C. Hatch, twins, Woolwich, Jan. 15, 1919.

Harry T. Hatch (5) b. Jan. 24, 1890, married Marion L. Rice, of Woolwich.

They live on the old homestead at Hatch's Corners.

ch. Harry A. Hatch, b. July 31, 1913.

Henry E. Hatch, b. Jan. 15, 1915.

Flora M. Hatch, b. Mar. 11, 1916.

Edna M. Hatch, b. May 25, 1918.

Family of Bradford Hatch (3) and Emmeline Kennedy.

Bradford Hatch, (3) b. Jan. 10, 1811; d. 1889, married Emmeline Kennedy, of Newcastle, Feb. 1837.

Children:

Hannah Luella, (4) b. Jan. 5, 1838; d. 1911; m. George L. Hinckley, 1862.

Clara Jane (4) b. Jan. 14, 1839; d. 1879.

Elmira Elizabeth (4) b. Nov. 18, 1840; d. 1920.

Ellen (4) b. June 23, 1842.

Mary Emmeline (4) b. Feb. 9, 1844; d. May, 1844.

Samuel Bradford (4)

Eben Sidney (4) Twins, b. Feb. 16, 1845; d. in 1864.

Annie Louise (4) b. Mar. 26, 1847; m. Samuel Batchelder, 1882.

Robert Kennedy (4) b. Aug. 18, 1850; d. 1918; m. Mary W. Given, 1894.

Fred Augustus (4) b. Apr. 12, 1857; d. 1878.

Everett Fletcher (4) b. July 20, 1858; d. 1895; m. Ida M. Beckford, 1889. 1905

Emma Hinckley, (5) daughter of George L. Hinckley and Clara Hatch. b. Feb. 14, 1871; m. George D. Pratt, 1895.

Children:

Howard E. Pratt (6) b. Sept. 1895.

Helen G. Pratt (6) b. 1902.

Children of Bradford Hatch (3) and Emmeline Kennedy.

Luella Hatch m. James Hinkley, of Bowdoinham. He was for many years a well-known proprietor of a large dry goods business in the village. They had two children, Emma and a son who died young with diphtheria. Emma married Mr. Pratt. They live near Portland, Me., have two children, Howard and Helen. Howard recently married.

Clara, Mira and Ellen Hatch lived for some years in Boston, afterwards in Lynn, Mass. Clara died many years ago. Mira recently died. Ellen is still living, bright and energetic at the age of 79 years. We hope she will live many years to brighten our homes with her visits.

Samuel Hatch and Eben Hatch, twins, died at about the age of 19 years.

Fred Hatch was educated at Bowdoin College and bade promise of being a prominent man, but he died while yet a young man.

Robert Hatch lived for many years in Lynn, Mass. He was a carpenter and builder. After his marriage with Mary Given, a childhood friend, they lived in Melrose, Mass. Not many years ago he bought a farm in Bowdoinham, near Richmond. He labored incessantly in improving the buildings, but lived only a few years to enjoy his home. His sisters, Ellen and Mira also lived with them. Mira died about three years ago. Mrs. Hatch and Ellen Hatch lived alone in the home for awhile, then Ellen made her home in Lynn, Mass. and Mrs. Hatch with her brother in Bowdoinham.

Everett Hatch was a fine, strong man. He lived many years in Lynn, Mass., where he married Ida Beckford daughter of a prominent man there. They were both members of the First Methodist Church.

Annie Hatch, youngest child of Bradford Hatch married Samuel Batchelder. They bought the old homestead and Mrs. Batchelder is still living there, tenderly cared for by Leon Batchelder, an adopted son, who was recently married. Mr. Batchelder died a few years ago.

PART II

CHAPTER I

WESTERN NEW YORK AND ONTARIO COUNTY

From a history of Western New York we quote the following:

"For nearly three hundred years following the discovery of America by Columbus, Western New York remained in possession of the Seneca Branch of the Iroquois confederacy. Traders had bought what the Indians had for sale, Jesuit missionaries had preached and taught and incidentally burned, and French soldiers had destroyed the homes and the stores of grain of the aboriginal possessors, but the "long house" of the Six Nations remained unshaken, and while the tides of conquest and settlement swung around to the north and further to the west, this "Great Western Wilderness," as it was spoken of in the books of the time, remained practically a terra incognita to the white man.

The strength of the Iroquois and their ability to save their Eden from invasion and appropriation by the recurring tides of immigration from the Old World remained unbroken until after the colonies had declared their independence and were in the throes of revolution.

In this great struggle the Iroquois, with the exception of a portion of the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, were adherents of the English king, and the land of the Senecas was the grainery and the place of refuge for the bands of warriors, that under the British officers ravaged the border towns in the eastern part of the state and in Pennsylvania.

It was to destroy this base of supplies that General John Sullivan in August and September, 1779, acting under orders from General Washington led an invasion into the heart of the Seneca country. Sullivan engaged and defeated an allied force of British regulars and Senecas. The period of the Indian occupancy of Ontario County had passed.

Ten years had elapsed after the strength of the Senecas had been broken and Sullivan's soldiers had gone back to their homes before the work of actual settlement could begin on account of

the rival claims of New York and Massachusetts to this section.

The soldiers of Sullivan's army were from the rocky hillsides of New England. They were first and finally farmers and home makers and they saw in the beautifully situated and fertile lands of Western New York a field that promised large rewards. They carried back to their homes recollections of this land of promise and settlements soon began to be made.

In the wild land speculations that marked the history of this region, good farm land brought as high as \$5.00 per acre. Before long the title of all Western New York had passed from Massachusetts and the original purchase of Phelps and Gorham to private ownership, with the exception of the 3,500 square miles of Indian reservation.

It was a hazardous undertaking at this early period for a man to take his family and move into the wilderness, where were still the native Indians, and few neighbors. There were no roads, and the pioneer had to clear off the trees and stumps, that he might raise flax for his clothes and wheat for bread. He had to haul his wheat to Albany in order to obtain a little money to buy sugar and hardware. It was a time that required men of determination, courage and perseverance."

These qualities were possessed in a large measure by our ancestors, Captain Peter Pitts of Dighton, Massachusetts and David Benton, of Litchfield, Connecticut, both of whom came to this wilderness to make a new home. Captain Peter Pitts was one of the promoters of a large colony from Dighton, among whom were the Richmonds, relatives of Abigail Richmond, wife of Captain Pitts.

On the contrary David Benton came alone, a young man, having left father, mother, and a large number of brothers and sisters, to work his way into this western wilderness to seek his fortune.

LIVONIA, N. Y.

"The following account of the settlement of Livonia, N. Y. was taken from "Doty's History of Livingston County, N. Y.:

"The town of Livonia was formed from Pittstown, now Richmond, in 1808, and reduced to its present size in 1819 for the formation of Conesus. There are five villages: Livonia, Livonia Centre, South Livonia, Hemlock Lake and Lakeville.

The most of the early settlers were from Connecticut, industri-

ous and energetic. Solomon Woodruff, one of the first settlers, was born in South Farms, Conn. and came to Livonia in 1792 and settled on a farm one mile south of the centre. His nearest neighbor at that time was Capt. Peter Pitts, at the foot of Honeoye Lake. His son Philip was the first white child born in the town.

Peter Briggs and a Mr. Higby settled in Livonia in 1794. Philip Short, David Benton and John Walcott in 1796 and 1798. Ruel and Jesse Blake, George Smith, Smith Henry, Nathan Woodruff and Thomas Grant about 1800. David Benton was born in Litchfield, Conn. The first frame house in town belonged to David Benton and was built in 1801. The carpenter work was done by Col. George Smith and John Smith. The first saw mill was built by Mr. Higby in 1795 and first grist mill by Seth Simmons the same year. Isaac Bishop was the pioneer merchant.

In the winter of 1798-9 a little log-house at the Centre was opened for a winter term of school for the children and young people. Darius Peck was the teacher. Another early settler of prominence was Leman Gibbs, who came with his parents, Eldad Gibbs and wife in 1801. He served as constable and for 35 years was Justice of the Peace. The first town meeting was held in 1808 at the home of Solomon Woodruff. The principal Officers were: Supervisor, Lyman Cook; town clerk, Theodore Hinman; Assessors, George Smith, John Warner, Matthew Hinman. John Bosley, who came about 1798, built a grist mill on the outlet of Conesus Lake in 1800. It was twice destroyed by fire and twice rebuilt. Mr. Bosley purchased a tract of 400 acres of the Wadsworths. Near his mill was Fort Hill, known as a spot where many Indian skeletons and relics were found.

In 1810 Livonia had a population of 1,187 and the manufacturers in that year produced 15,933 yards of cloth from 60 looms. There were 200 families. In 1835 the town had 3 grist mills.

The most picturesque part of Livonia is around the northern end of Hemlock Lake, with its bold, thickly wooded shores and banks. The lake is about 7 miles long, averages 200 rods wide and its pure waters are from 60 to 80 feet deep nearly the whole length. It has an altitude of 900 feet. Since 1872 it has been the source of the water supply of the city of Rochester.

The first church was organized in 1806, as the Second Congregational Church of Pittstown; in 1813 it took the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Livonia. Among the original members is the name of Nancy Benton.



HOME OF DAVID BENTON
First Frame House Built in Livonia, N. Y.

CHAPTER II

DAVID BENTON and NANCY PITTS

Their Children and Descendants in New York State

Of David Benton, the pioneer, we have no written record, but a glimpse here and there of his life assures us that he was a man of strict integrity and sterling character.

He was the son of Ebenezer Benton, Jr., of Litchfield, Conn., was born September 24, 1768 and died September 30, 1803; a descendant of a long line of strong, influential men, as will be seen by referring to the "Benton Family in New England," in Part I.

David was one of a family of eight children, and from his father's will (See Part I) we learn that he was paid his share of his father's estate and went to New York State when a young man.

We catch a glimpse of this sturdy, attractive young man, about 27 years of age, travelling through the wilderness, it may be with only his gun, ax and knapsack; and, as he comes down over the hill into the little settlement near Capt. Peter Pitts' hospitable home, a pretty romance has its beginning, when, according to a tradition given us by Mr. Pitts Barnard, Nancy Pitts exclaims, "*There's my Man.*" It must have been a case of "love at first sight" on both sides, for the romance soon culminates in a happy marriage.

The town records give the date of David Benton's coming to Hemlock as 1798, but we find that "Capt. Peter Pitts deeds to Rebecca Pitts and *Nancy Benton*, his daughters in 1796, Lot No. 38 in Township No. 9, Fifth Range, containing 380 acres for 300 pounds."

He is also given a commission as Paymaster in the Ontario County Militia in 1796, (See below.) These two facts show that he must have been a well known and highly respected man in the community a considerable length of time prior to 1796.

In 1801 David Benton purchased from his brother-in-law, Gideon Pitts, 150 acres of land, "off the west end of Lot No. 31 in Township No. 9, in the Sixth Range." This land is now occupied by a Mr. Morrissey. For his farm he paid \$975.00. Here he built the first frame house in town, which house remained standing until a few years ago. A portion of the old orchard still remains.

But the happy home was soon broken up by his death in 1803, at the age of 35 years. It is said that his was the first grave stone in the Union Cemetery. He left his wife, Nancy, with four small children, Phebe, Mary, Gideon and Ebenezer:

Phebe W. Benton was born in 1796. She was the second wife of Adolphus Watkins, of Lima. They had no children. She died June 22, aged 31 years, 9 months and 2 days.

Mary Benton married John Gould, of Richmond, N. Y. They moved to Michigan as early as 1825 and were among the first settlers of the town of Novi, afterwards called Farmington. John Gould was the first Postmaster and the first sermon was preached at his house by a Methodist Circuit rider. The first death was that of Mrs. Polly Gould, probably Mary Benton Gould. The first white child born in the town was Mary Gould, who married a Mr. Pearsall.

Gideon Pitts Benton was one of the early pioneers of Plymouth, Michigan. This town was organized in 1827. Gideon P. Benton was the first Postmaster, also Commissioner of Highways. He owned at that time over 300 acres of land. He had a son, Hiram Benton, who in 1868-9 was Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner.

Ebenezer Benton married Lavinia Freeman, of Pultneyville, N. Y. He died September 16, 1880, at Andover, N. Y.; is buried in Livonia, N. Y. She died January 12, 1889, at Cummings, Kansas, and is buried by the side of her daughter, Phebe Stonecipher.

COMMISSION OF DAVID BENTON

THE PEOPLE of the State of New York, by the Grace of God,
Free and Independent:-

To David Benton, Gentleman

GREETING

WE, reposing especial trust and confidence, as well in your Patriotism, Conduct and Loyalty, as in your Integrity and readineff to do us good and faithful service, HAVE appointed and conftituted and

by thefe Prefents, DO appoint and confitute you the faid David Benton Pay Master of the Regiment of Militia in the County of Ontario whereof Amos Hall Efquire is Lieutenant Colonel Commandant to take rank from the 2d Day of April 1796.

YOU are therefore to take the faid Regiment into your care, as Paymaster thereof; And the Officers and Soldiers of that Regiment are hereby commanded to obey and refpect you as their Paymaster and you are alfo to obferve and follow fuch orders and directions, as you fhall from time to time receive from the General and Commander in Chief of the Militia of our faid State, or any other your fuperior Officer, according to the Rules and Difcipline of War, in purfuanee of the truft repofed in you; and for fo doing this fhall be your Comiffion, for and during our good pleafure, to be fignified by our Council of Appointment: IN TESTIMONY whereof, we have caufed our Seal for Military Commiffions to be hereto affixed; WITNESS, our trufty and well-beloved JOHN JAY, Efquire, Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the fame, by and with the advice and confent of our faid Council of Appointment, at the city of Albany, the Twenty-eighth Day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand feven hundred and ninety eight and in the twenty-second Year of our Independence.

Paffed the Secretary's Office, the 11th Day of Aprile, 1798.

Jasper Hopper, Secretary.

John Jay

The discrepancy in the dates above given will be noticed. However, the military records of Ontario County give the following explanation:

"Apr. 2, 1796, the following officers were appointed: Amos Hall, Lieut. Col. Commandant: Wm. Wadsworth, first major; Nathan Percy, second major; Jasper Marvin, Adjutant; Friend Hall, quartermaster; *Stephen Benton* paymaster; Daniel Chapin, surgeon."

Below is given the following:

"Ontario Co. Mar. 28, 1798.

"In Lieut. Col. Amos Hall's regiment: "*David Benton*, paymaster, vice S. Benton, appointed thro' mistake."

Stephen Benton was from another county and appointed by mistake.

NANCY PITTS (Of Mayflower ancestry.)

Nancy Pitts, wife of David Benton, was the daughter of Capt. Peter Pitts and Abigail (Richmond) Pitts, of Dighton, Mass., who, with their large family of ten children came to Ontario Co., New York State, in 1790.~ She was born in Dighton, in 1774, and died in Livonia, February 22, 1847, aged 72 years, 5 months, and 4 days.

It is from David Benton and Nancy Pitts that all the Bentons of this family, also Barnards and their descendants, trace their ancestry from the Pilgrims who came to this country in the "Mayflower."

Our first glimpse of Nancy Pitts is that mentioned in the history of David Benton, viz.: that upon first seeing him she laughingly exclaims that he will be her husband. Do we not see here in the impulsive expression of this young girl of 21 years of age a strong resemblance to her ancestor, "Priscilla Mollines," who was not ashamed to delicately suggest to John Alden the one she prefers? At any rate, following the example of John and Priscilla, they are soon married, Nancy being about 21 years of age and David 27 or 28.

Their married life was short, less than eight years. Then, at the death of her husband in 1803, she was left a widow with four children: Phebe W., Mary, Ebenezer and Gideon.

Sometime after 1806 she married Chauncey Benton, who was born in Litchfield, Conn. He was a nephew of David Benton and somewhat younger than Nancy Benton. Their children were: David, Samuel, Peter, and Chauncey and Benton, twins.

The following regarding her grandmother Barnard was given us by Mrs. Lillie Hoppough of Hemlock, N. Y.:

About 1816 Mr. Barnard removed with his family to Lot No. 7, Livonia, while his children were still young. He died in 1834 aged 50 years. His widow, Nancy (Benton) Barnard, lived 13 years longer, being cared for during her years as an invalid by her son Benton Barnard and his wife Lillas. Her son Chauncey, twin brother of Benton, also lived with her. The twin brothers were inseparable, and when in later years Benton moved to Michigan, leaving Chauncey on the old home place, he finally returned. Some years afterwards, about 1875, the brothers sold their Livonia home and moved to Nakomis, Ill., where Robert Barnard, son of Benton Barnard, still lives.

We are not able to record more of the life of Nancy Benton Barnard. We wish we might have known more of those early days, when, together with other wives and mothers, there were many trials and hardships to bear in building a home in the wilderness, but we know that she was the mother of nine children, that she lived a long and useful life. She was a godly woman and when the infirmities of old age overtook her she looked forward with great eagerness to the Heavenly home which awaited her.

Children of Ebenezer Benton and Lavinia Freeman

Ebenezer Benton was born in 1800, three years before the death of his Father, David Benton. When a young lad he was sent to Litchfield, Conn. where he lived for some time with his aunt Lois, wife of Daniel Lamson.

In 1818 the farm of David Benton was divided among his four children, Phebe, Mary, Gideon and Ebenezer, together with his wife, who had married Chauncey Barnard. The farm was then sold to Levi Blackmer.

Somewhere about 1824 Ebenezer is mentioned as living in Farmersville, N. Y. Here the Freemans lived, and here he met Lavinia Freeman, daughter of Smith and Huldah Freeman, of Pultneyville, N. Y. and they were married. They had nine children: Nancy, Hiram, Phebe, Mary, William, Helen, James, David and Jennie.

They lived for many years in Livonia, and later moved to Andover, N. Y. where they made their home with their son, Hiram, until the death of Ebenezer Benton in that town in 1880. He is buried in the Union Cemetery in Livonia.

Not long after the death of her husband, Lavinia Benton went to Blaine, Kansas, to live with her son, William Benton. Here she spent her declining years, lovingly cared for by her son and his wife. Her last years were made happier in that she was so near her daughters Phebe and Mary, and their children growing up were a great delight to her. Her last years were her best. The writer remembers hearing her tell how at one time she had her fortune told by a gypsy and the prophecy was that sometime she would receive a sum of money and lead an easy life in her old age. This prophecy came true, as after the death of her husband she received a pension, due to the death of her son James in the Civil War, and this, together with the bounty with it enabled her to live comfortably, with the aid of her son, William.

"Grandma Benton," as she was known, was, especially in her old age, a benediction to all who knew her, and her photograph, taken at an advanced age, testifies to her saintly character. While on a visit to her daughter, Phebe, she succumbed to what at that time was called "La Grippe," and she quietly passed away. Her daughters, Phebe, Mary and her husband, and her daughter-in-law, Della Benton, all died of the same dread disease within a few weeks of each other.

Children:

Nancy Benton married Ira Ward.

Hiram Benton married first, Hannah Spaulding, of Oramel, N. Y.

" second Ann Baldwin of Wellsville, N. Y.

Phebe Benton " Benjamin Stonecipher.

Mary Benton " William Henry.

William Benton " Della Fowler, of Livonia, N. Y.

Helen Benton " Warren A. Hatch, of South Dresden, Maine.

David Benton " Went to War and never returned.

James Benton " Killed in Battle in the Civil War.

Jennie Benton " Newton Rhinevault.

Hiram Pitts Benton married first Hannah Spaulding of Oramel, N. Y., married second Ann Baldwin, of Wellsville.

Hiram Benton was what one would call a strong minded man. In his early manhood he was associated with Mr. A. O. Very, of Oramel, in the selling of looms, etc. There was always a strong affection between the two families, and when later H. P. Benton lived in Andover and A. O. Very in Wellsville, the families constantly visited back and forth. H. P. Benton was for many years proprietor of an apothecary store in Andover, but his health failed and he sold his business to Benjamin Spaulding, brother of his wife, Hannah. After several years his health improved, and he entered into the coal and lumber business, in which he was engaged at the time of his death. His wife Hannah was a beautiful woman, both in appearance and character. She was of Quaker parentage, and her quiet manners and kindly face will long be remembered by those who knew her. Several years after her death Mr. Benton married Ann Baldwin, a sister of Mrs. A. O. Very, and a life long friend of the family. "Aunt Ann," was of an exceedingly retiring and reticent disposition, but much loved and appreciated for her perfect sincerity by those who knew her best. She was an invalid for many years and during that time was cared for by Mrs. Rhinevault, a sister of H. P. Benton.

Of Hiram Benton it can truly be said, "He was given to hospitality," for his home was a rendezvous for all his family and friends. We always felt we were welcome at Uncle Hiram's, and we recall with pleasure the many happy hours spent in his home while we lived close by, and in later years when circumstances allowed us to visit him for a short time. His home has been sold and no one of the family is now living in Andover. Mr. A. O. Very removed to Los Angeles, Cal. to be with their son and only child, Frederick Very.

Hiram P. Benton and his wives, Hannah Spaulding and Ann Baldwin are buried in Valley Brook Cemetery, Andover, N. Y.

Helen Morse Benton, mother of the writer, Edith E. Davenport, was born in Livonia, N. Y.

She married Warren A. Hatch, of Dresden, Maine. They had eight children; Cora, born in Illinois, Eva, Edith and Jennie, in Livonia, Walter, Charles, Nellie and T. Augustus, in Andover. Eva and Nellie died in infancy.

For further particulars of her life, see "Hatch Family," in New England, Part I.

(For records of Phebe, Mary and William Benton, see Part 3)

David Benton in all probability was killed in the Civil War. He went from home at the age of fifteen, telling his mother that he would never return until he had money to keep her from working so hard. She never saw him again. Although too young to enlist, a friend reported that he had entered the service as a drummer boy. From that time he was never heard from and the family always believed that he was killed in battle.

James Benton was a rare young man. Perhaps a letter received in 1911 by Mr. Pitts Barnard from an old comrade of James Benton's in the Civil War, Charles O. Goodyear, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., will give a better description of him than other words.

"James Benton was a member of Company I, 124th N. Y. Volunteers, my company. He was killed the day before Lee surrendered and was a very dear friend of mine. I notified his family of his death. He and I were about the same age. I have never forgotten the dear boy, and of late he has been constantly in my mind, and I finally decided to inquire for some of his family. He was a very fine young man, and one of the bravest soldiers that served in the War of the Rebellion. I loved him as a brother. It was a good

while ago, but I have never forgotten him and still dearly cherish his memory."

Jennie Benton married Newton Rhinevault. They lived in Corning and in Pennsylvania. Mr. Rhinevault was wounded in the Civil War and was never strong. For a time they lived in Manassas, Virginia, where the mild climate was beneficial to his health. Later they returned to his home in Pennsylvania, where he died. They had one child, Lee Rhinevault, a fine young man, who died in early manhood. Since that time Mrs. Rhinevault lived for several years with her brother H. P. Benton, Andover, N. Y. She is now making her home with her niece, William Benton's daughter, Nellie Garrettson, in Whittier, Cal. She is the only survivor of a family of nine children of Ebenezer Benton and Lavinia Freeman.

CHAPTER III

THE BARNARD FAMILY

The Hartford records have the following: "John Barnard came late to Hartford; he purchased land as follows: "Of John Day Mar. 15, 1732-3, of Joseph Shepherd Oct. 14, 1738; of Stebbins Wilson in 1739, and others. He died about 1771. He had a son Samuel Barnard. The record has the following: "Samuel Barnard deeded land in Hartford, in 1781, which he had in descent from his father JOHN (1) deceased, late of Hartford."

This Samuel Barnard (2) married Abigail Gibbs, June 22, 1758. He died in 1805, she died Oct. 10, 1816, age 74 years. He moved to Litchfield. Son, Samuel (3).

George Barnard (2) of Hartford, brother of Samuel, b—d. Aug. 19, 178-, married Lois—Jan. 15, 1784. children; Sally b. Nov. 1, 1784, married L. Beach. Betsey b. Nov. 3, 1786, d. Aug. 30, 1800, age 14 years.

GIBBS FAMILY

Benjamin Gibbs of Windsor, Conn. was one of the earliest settlers of Litchfield, Conn. He was born in 1675, married Abigail Marshall, 1708.

They had 14 children: Benjamin, b. 1710; Zebulon, b. 1711; HENRY, b. 1713; Abigail, b. 1715, Hannah, b. 1716, David b. William b. 1718; Gershom b. 1721. (He was the first white male born in Litchfield.) Zadock, b. 1723; Elizabeth, b. Feb. 3, 1725; Sarah, b. 1727; Caleb, b. 1729; Justice, b. 1731; Remembrance, b. 1734.

HENRY GIBBS (2) died Jan. 22, 1769, married Abigail Martin Nov. 8, 1739.

children: Sarah, b.—d. June 10, 1747.

Abigail b. Aug. 23, 1742, m. Samuel Barnard d. Oct. 10, 1816. (Samuel Barnard and Abigail Gibbs were the grandparents of Peter, Samuel, Chauncey and Benton Barnard).

Henry Gibbs had five other children viz; David b. July 9, 1744, d. 1747.

David; b. Oct. 4, 1748; David b. Oct. 14, 1750; David b. May 16, 1753.

Henry, Jr.; b—Simeon, b. Sept. 12, 1755, d. Mar. 23, 1756.

SAMUEL BARNARD, JR. (3), of Litchfield, married first, MARY BENTON, Feb. 18, 1784. She died July 23, 1786, aged 23 yrs.

She was the sister of DAVID BENTON who came to Hemlock Lake.

Children of Samuel and Mary Barnard:

(1) CHAUNCEY, (4) who came to Hemlock Lake. He was the nephew of DAVID BENTON and married David Benton's widow, Nancy Pitts.

(2) Benton, (4)

The only record the writer has of Benton Barnard was taken from the gravestone in Morris (South Farms) Burial Ground. He married Elizabeth R.—He died Mar. 15, 1855, aged 69.

She died Dec. 3, 1853, aged 69.

Children: William Rea, " Mar. 27, 1816, aged 1 yr.
6 mos.

Henry " Feb. 14, 1821, aged 17
mos. 20 days.

Infant " Nov. 3, 1822.

Inscriptions in Morris Burying Ground. Litchfield, Conn.

"In memory of Mary Barnard, wife of Samuel Barnard, Jr., Mother of Chauncey and Benton Barnard, daughter of Ebenezer and Amy Benton, who died July 23, 1786, aged 23 years.

"Sleep on, dear Mother, take thy rest.

Thy age at twenty-three was set,

When from thy friends thou wast removed,

Forty and three have since elapsed.

And now thy son, thine infant babe,

For whom thy care so much was paid,

Sets forth his love afresh to thee

By this a marble memory."

Erected by Benton Barnard of Litchfield, Conn.

SAMUEL BARNARD JR. (3), married second in 1787, Wealthie, daughter of Lemuel and Mary Clapp Steele. She was born Aug. 22, 1765. d.—

Children:

1. Samuel, b. July 17, 1788, married Mary E. Clark. He died Sept. 23, 1838.
She was born Jan. 23, 1783. They had four children.
2. Henry Gibbs, b. Feb. 9, 1790, married Ann Gookin, b. Mar. 10, 1791.
3. Mary Benton, b. Apr. 23, 1792, married Aaron B. Goodwin. She died Nov. 20, 1848. They had two daughters.
4. Abigail b. Oct. 12, 1794, married Phineas Howard. They had four children (one was named Goodwin.)
5. Wealthie b. Sept. 22, 1797, married Joseph G. Webster. They had three children.
6. Nervina b. Dec. 22, 1799; married Ithamar Hubbard, lived in Litchfield, Conn.
7. Elizabeth C. b. Apr. 12, 1802; married —Bagley. They had two children.
8. Lucy G. b. Apr. 7, 1804; died Aug. 29, 1843.
9. Anne C. b. May 27, 1806; married J. N. Sanford; lived at Mt. Morris, N. Y.

The following record of the Barnards in New York State was kindly furnished by Mr. Pitts Barnard of Richmond, N. Y.

CHAUNCEY BARNARD (4), oldest child of Samuel and Mary Benton Barnard, was born in Litchfield, May 9, 1785. He moved to Hemlock Lake and married Mrs. Nancy Pitts Benton, widow of David Benton, his uncle. He died Apr. 5, 1834. She was born Sept. 18, 1774, and died Feb. 22, 1847.

Children:

1. David (5) b.—married Minerva Norton.
2. Samuel (5) b. Sept. 15, 1809, married first Matilda Norton Jan. 11, 1836. She was born May 20, 1811, d. Mar. 13; married second Mrs. Sarah Ann Young (Powell), she died in 1886. He died 1889.

3. PETER PITTS, (5) b. Jan. 20, 1812; m. FANNY REED, Oct. 19, 1837.
d. Oct. 5, 1876; she was born May 7, 1818,
d. June 5, 1871.

He married second Mrs. Abbey Jane Olney
(Gray) Nov. 26, 1872. She was born Mar.
14, 1823, d. Oct. 13, 1906.

- 4 Chauncey }
5 Benton } twins (5) b. Nov. 6, 1813.

Benton Barnard married Lillis Smalley.
He died Oct. 19, 1885. She born Sept. 1824,
d. Nov. 10, 1896.
Chauncey Barnard never married, died Nov.
19, 1889.

Samuel Barnard (5) married 1st Matilda Norton Jan. 11, 1836.
They lived at Livonia Center.

Children:

1. Mary Taylor Barnard (6) b. 1840 d. Mar. 8, 1843, aged 3 years.
2. Geo. Thomas Barnard (6) b. 1842 d. Jan. 10, 1843, aged 3 mo.
3. Mary Wing Barnard (6) b. 1844 d. Mar. 8, 1852, aged 8 yrs.
4. Chas. Albert Barnard (6) b. 1846 d. Oct. 30, 1866, aged 20 yrs.
5 mo.
5. Sarah Lucy Barnard (6) b. 1849 m. Nov. 3, 1873 Edwin T.
Senior. He was born
Sept. 25, 1849.
6. Frank A. Barnard (6) b. 1852 d. Mar. 24, 1856, aged 4 yrs.

Sarah Lucy Barnard (6) married Edwin T. Senior, Nov. 3, 1873.

Children:

1. Belle Matilda Senior (7) b. Nov. 10, 1874, d. Dec. 5, 1901.
2. Mary Berna Senior (7) b. May 1, 1880.
3. Bessie C. Senior (7) b. Aug. 8, 1883.
4. Adah Blanche Senior (7) b. Nov. 3, 1886.

Samuel Barnard (5) married 2nd Mrs. Sarah Ann Young. (Powell.)
Children:

1. Fred Carpenter Barnard (6) b.—— married Mary I. Reynolds
Aug. 30, 1892.

Children: Fred R. Barnard (7) d. Jan. 31, 1913.

2. Fanny Jane Barnard (6) b.——. married Dell Bailey.

Children: Root Bailey (7)

Children of David (5) and Minerva (Norton) Barnard.

1. Nancy Barnard b.—— m.——Benedict. They had 1 boy.

2. Phebe Jane Barnard m.——Griffin.

3. Frank Mahala Barnard m.——La Selle.

4. Junia Barnard m.——Benedict. They had two children.

PETER PITTS BARNARD (5) married 1st Fanny Reed, Oct. 19,
1837.

Children:

1. Ellen Antha Barnard (6) b. Feb. 18, 1840. m. Mark
Hawley Ray, Mar. 23, 1860.
d. July 1, 1895. He b. July
15, 1836. d. Oct. 11, 1891.

2. Elizabeth Mary Barnard (6) b. Feb. 11, 1842. m. John Pur-
cell Ray Feb. 25, 1863. d. Dec.
28, 1872. He was born Mar.
26, 1840. d. Aug. 20, 1909.

3. Frances Amanda Barnard (6) b. Sept. 23, 1846. m. Richmond
Chas. Beach, Feb. 4, 1869; d.
Jan. 26, 1916.
He was born Aug. 18, 1844;
d. Mar. 18, 1917.

4. Fitch Reed Barnard (6) b. Jan. 1, 1852; m. Sarah J.
Jerome, Jan. 29, 1879; d. Apr.
5, 1911. She b. Oct. 9, 1856.

5. PETER PITTS BARNARD (6) b. Nov. 13, 1859, m. Clara
Jerome, Oct. 21, 1885. She
was born Sept. 9, 1860.

Ellen A. Barnard (6) married Mark H. Ray, Mar. 23, 1860.

Children:

1. Elvira Ray (7) b. Feb. 4, 1861. d. Sept. 1, 1864.

2. Viola Fannie Ray (7) b. Sept. 17, 1863; m. Vernon N. Pem-
berton, Nov. 21, 1883; d. Nov. 3,
1919.

3. Clarence Ray (7) b. Mar. 27, 1866. d. Aug. 28, 1866.

4. Pitts Barnard Ray (7) b. Oct. 8, 1867. m. Hattie Hungerford, May 11, 1893.
They had one child Sibyl Ellen Ray (8)

5. Fisk Mark Ray (7) b. Sept. 19, 1869; m. Agnes Harris, Dec. 12, 1892. They had three children viz.
Mark Hawley Ray (8) b. Jan. 4, 1895.
Irene Ray (8) b. May 10, 1896.
Harris Alden Ray (8) b. Sept. 5, 1899.

6. Glenn A. Ray (7) b. Aug. 10, 1872; d. Sept. 10, 1877.

Elizabeth Barnard (6) married John P. Ray, Feb. 25, 1863.

Children:

1. Fannie B. Ray (7) b. June 25, 1866. m. Clayton S. Stone, Oct. 15, 1890. She died Nov. 9, 1916.

Francis A. Barnard (6) married Richmond Charles Beach, Feb. 4, 1869.

Children:

1. Mettie Laura Beach (7) b. Nov. 12, 1870.

2. Bernard Richmond Beach (7) b. July 24, 1879; m. Blanche Louise Curtis, Aug. 17, 1904.
She was born Aug. 16, 1881.

Fitch Reed Barnard (6) married Sarah J. Jerome.

Children:

1. Fannie Elizabeth Barnard (7) b. Dec. 13, 1881; m. Frederick W. Herman Aug. 15, 1900. He was born Jan. 1871.
They had three children viz;
Fitch Barnard Herman, b. Aug. 23, 1902.
Marian Sarah Herman b. Aug. 3, 1906.
Norris Dwight Herman b. Mar. 18, 1912.

2. Solon Howard Barnard (7) married Mabel De Golyer.

Children: Howard Fitch Barnard, b. Mar. 25, 1917.

Ralph De Golyer Barnard b. Feb. 5, 1919.

Doris Emma Barnard b. Aug. 30, 1920.

PETER PITTS BARNARD (6) married Clara Jerome Oct. 21, 1885.

Children:

1. Samuel Jerome Barnard (7) b. Aug. 30, 1887; died Sept. 22, 1887.
2. Glenn Harrison Barnard (7) born Jan. 21, 1889.
3. Mark Pitts Barnard (7) born Sept. 4, 1890, died Feb. 11, 1891.
4. Peter Ray Barnard (7) born Nov. 28, 1891.

Benton Barnard (5) married Lillis Smalley.

Children:

1. Melvin M. Barnard (6) b. June 8, 1845. m. Emily Smalley Sept. 1867. She died Feb. 12, 1919.
2. Lillie Barnard (6) m. Geo. Hoppough.
They had one child, died in infancy.
3. Solon S. Barnard (6) b. June 2, 1854, d. Mar. 21, 1887.
4. Robert P. Barnard (6) b. m. Ada Hamlin Apr. 7, 1891.

Melvin Barnard (6) married Emily Smalley.

Children:

1. Mabel Teresa Barnard (7) b. Oct. 19, 1868, m. Frank A. Terwilliger, Oct. 17, 1889, d.—
He died Mar. 20, 1903.
They had one son, Bertrand. b. July 21, 1890, m. Helen Elyse-buth, June 10, 1916. Ch. Ruth Mabel. b. Dec. 11, 1918.
2. Solon C. Barnard (7) b. Sept. 10, 1872. d. Feb. 1873.
3. Lillis M. Barnard (7) b. July 18, 1878, m. James H. McCanna, Dec. 14, 1904.
They had two daughters.
Lillis Emily, b. Mar. 5, 1912, d. Mar. 15, 1912.
Virginia Mead b. Aug. 6, 1919.
4. Eva Violet Barnard (7) b. Feb. 16, 1884, m. Robert Kil-lough, Nov. 20, 1913.
They had two children:
Naomi A. b. Sept. 30, 1916.
Melvin, b. Oct. 17, 1917.
5. Alanson Benton Barnard (7) b. Feb. 15, 1887, m. Mayme E. Bonham, Oct. 1910. one son, Alanson, b. Jan. 13, 1915.

Robert Barnard (6) married Ada Hamlin.

Children:

1. Leon Barnard (7) b. Aug. 15, 1892; d. Oct. 21, 1892.
2. Virgie A. Barnard (7) b. Sept. 26, 1893; m. Louis W. Waltman,
Oct. 10, 1917. One child Barnard Louis
Waltman b. Sept. 18, 1920.
3. Robert P. Barnard (7) b. Jan. 17, 1903; d. Jan. 21, 1903.



The home of Capt. Peter, Peter, the Irishman,
lives in Richmond

CHAPTER IV

RICHMOND, NEW YORK

The following account of the settlement of what is now Richmond by Peter Pitts of Dighton, Mass., his sons and others, is taken from the "History of the Pioneer Settlement of Phelps's and Gorham's Purchase," written by O. Turner, and published in 1851.

In April, 1787, three young men, Gideon Pitts, James Goodwin and Asa Simmons, left their native place, Dighton, Mass., to seek a new home in the wilderness. They came up the Susquehanna and located at Newtown, now Elmira. Here, uniting with other adventurers, they erected the first white man's habitation upon the site of the present village; and during the fall planted and raised Indian corn. Returning to Dighton, their favorable representations of the country induced the organization of the "Dighton Company," for the purpose of purchasing a large tract as soon as Phelps and Gorham had perfected their title. To be in season, Calvin Jacobs was deputed to attend the treaty with Gideon Pitts, and select the tract. As soon as the townships were surveyed, the company purchased 46,080 acres of the land embraced in what were afterwards the towns of Richmond and Bristol, and a small parcel of land on the west side of Canandaigua Lake.

In 1789, Capt. Peter Pitts, his son William, Deacon George Codding and his son George, Calvin Jacobs and Rev. John Smith, came via the Susquehanna route to the new purchase, and surveyed what are now the towns of Richmond and Bristol. One of the party, the Rev. John Smith on their arrival at Canandaigua, preached the first sermon there and first in all the Genesee country, except those preached by the Indian missionaries. The lands having been divided by lot, Capt. Pitts drew for his share 3000 acres at the foot of Honeoye Lake, including the flats and a cleared field which had been the site of an Indian Village destroyed by Sullivan's army.

In the spring of 1790, Gideon and William Pitts commenced the improvement of this tract. Coming in with a four horse team, they managed to make a shelter for themselves with the boards of their sled, ploughed up a few acres of open flats and planted some

spring crops, from which they got a good yield, preparatory to the coming in of the remainder of the family. Capt. Peter Pitts started with the family in October, in company with John Coddington and family. They came from Taunton river in a chartered vessel as far as Albany, and from Schenectady by water, landing at Geneva. They arrived at Pitts' flats on the 2nd day of December. A comfortable log house had been provided by Gideon and William, later replaced by a commodious framed structure. The family consisted of the old gentleman, his wife and ten children, besides hired help. For three years they were the only family in the town; their neighbors, the Wadsworths were at Big Tree, Capt. Taft at West Bloomfield, and the Coddingtons and Goodings at Bristol.

The house of this early family being on the Indian trail from Canandaigua to the Genesee River—which was the early travelled road for the white settlers—"Capt. Pitts and "Pitts' Flats," had a wide notoriety in these primitive days. It was the stopping place of the Wadsworths and Jones, of Thomas Morris, and in fact of all of the early prominent pioneers of that region. Louis Phillipe, when from a wanderer in the backwoods of America, he had become the occupant of the throne of France, remembered that he had spent a night in the humble log house of Capt. Pitts. The Duke de Liancourt, strolling everywhere through this region, in 1795, with his companions went from Canandaigua to make the patriarch of the backwoods a visit.

The Indians upon their trail, camping and hunting upon their old grounds, the flats, and the uplands around Honeoye Lake, were the almost constant neighbors of Capt. Pitts, in the earliest years. Generally they were peaceable and well disposed; a party of them, however most of whom were intoxicated, attacked the women of the family who had refused them liquor, and Capt. Pitts, his sons and hired men, coming to the rescue, a severe conflict ensued. Finally with the aid of clubs, shovels and tongs, they were vanquished until other help arrived.

The first training in the Genesee Country was held at the home of Capt. Pitts; a militia company, commanded by Capt. William Wadsworth, and Pitts' flats was for many years a training ground.

Capt. Peter Pitts died in 1812, aged 74 years. His eldest son Gideon, who was several times a member of the Legislature, died in 1829, aged 63 years. The descendants of Capt. Pitts are numerous, many of them occupying the lands he left them—the flats of the Honeoye—conspicuously beautiful even now, when surrounded with rural landscapes, that would often tempt the traveler from the

great thoroughfares could he realize what a panorama of lakes, broad highly cultivated fields, flocks and herds, villages, more than comfortable farmhouses, is spread out in the southern portions of Ontario and Livingston."

"This brief glimpse of the early settlement is derived from Peter Pitts, son of Capt. Peter Pitts. To Mrs. Blackmer, the daughter of Capt. Peter Pitts, the author, (O. Turner) is indebted for the following reminiscences:-

"Zadoc Hunn, a Presbyterian minister, who lived in Canandaigua, held meetings at my Father's house, as early as 1793. He first preached in Canandaigua, afterwards a log meeting house was built for him in Bristol. We used to have good meetings in those days, better than we do now.

"My Father's house was, for several years, a home for the new settlers, land explorers, land agents, and surveyors. When Louis Phillipe visited Western New York, he wished to visit our neighborhood. He came with his companions to our house, bringing a letter of introduction, from Thomas Morris, Esq. of Canandaigua. He was very sociable, and much pleased with the country. He remained over night. There were some Indians encamped on the lake shore; the party went down to see them, taking my brother Peter, a small lad, along with them. He could talk Indian. Louis Phillipe was highly pleased at being enabled to communicate with them through the agency of so young an interpreter. The first few years after our family came, there were many Indians passing our house daily, and hunting parties were encamped nearly all the time in the neighborhood."

"The old Indian castle that Sullivan burned down, stood about one hundred yards from the foot of the lake. After we came here, there were many remains of wigwams that Sullivan had destroyed and the bones of his pack horses."

From Reminiscences of Mrs. Farnum, of Pittstown.

"The Indians, if they were guilty of occasional outrage, had some of the finest impulses of the human heart. The wife of a son of Capt. Pitts, who had always been kind to them, was upon her death bed; hearing of it, the Squaws came and wailed around the house, with all the intense grief they exhibit when mourning the death of kindred."

"Upon Pitts' flats, near the old Indian Castle, at the foot of Honoye Lake, in the first ploughing, many brass kettles, guns, beads, etc. were found. An old Squaw that had formerly resided upon the flats said that the approach of Sullivan's army was not discovered

by them until they were seen coming over the the hill near where Capt. Pitts built his house. She said there was a sudden desertion of the village, all took to flight. One Indian admitted that he never looked back until he reached Buffalo Creek.

“Travels through the United States of America,
the Country of the Iroquois,”
by the Duke de Liancourt.

“We set out with the Blacons on our way to Ontario, intending to take a view of an estate belonging to one Mr. Pitts, of which we had heard much talk throughout the country. On our arrival we found the house crowded with Presbyterians; its owner attending to a noisy, tedious harangue, delivered by a minister with such violence of elocution that he appeared all over in perspiration.” (This was the Rev. Zadock Hunn.) “We found it very difficult to obtain some oats for our horses and a few hasty morsels for our own dinner.

“As we had no opportunity of viewing the estate, we were obliged to content ourselves with the fine prospect of the neighboring grounds, which the house afforded. The fields are in a better state of cultivation than any we have hitherto seen and thoroughly cleared of wood. This estate has been only five years under cultivation. These beautiful fields were cleared long ago by the Indians. One hundred and thirty acres are under cultivation. Of these, sixty acres are laid out in meadows, on which clover and timothy grass are sown. Their stock consists of sixty or seventy head of cattle, of which they sell very little, as they wish to augment their number by breeding. The first crop of their meadows yields two tons of hay per acre and the second is fed off to the cattle. The winter does not last above three and one-half months, during which the live stock kept near the house are fed with hay, morning and evening, in the farm yard. The average produce is twenty bushels of wheat and thirty-five bushels of Indian corn per acre. The price of wheat is six shillings and corn and oats three shillings per bushel. Laboring men earn five shillings per day wages, without victuals. The saw and corn mills lie at a considerable distance from this house. The first is eight miles, and second twelve miles distant. Corn and flour are transported on sledges during the winter. All the corn fields, as we well as grass lands, had a fine appearance and seemed to be under excellent management.”

“With characteristic gallantry, the Duke adds, “that a view of the handsome married and unmarried women that he saw attending the meeting, “was even more delectable than the fine rural scenery.”

Settlement of Town of Richmond, N. Y.

From Doty's History of Livingston Co.

"Richmond and Honeoye have been inhabited for perhaps a thousand years. There is plenty of evidence that there were two occupations of the town previous to that of the Iroquois. It is not at all improbable that the early inhabitants belonged to the Mound Builders.

The first mention in historical records of this territory was in September, 1779, when an army of white men under General Sullivan came over the hill near Blackmer's Corners and looked down on the Indian settlement. This settlement is mentioned by the soldiers many times, who were impressed by the beauty and fertility of the valley. The soldiers spread the news of what they had seen when they returned home and this played an important part in the settlement of this part of the country.

Richmond was, and always has been, an agricultural community. The settlement was first called Pittstown, in honor of Capt. Pitts. In 1808 it was changed to Honeoye and in 1815 to Richmond.

At the first Town Meeting the following officers were chosen: Supervisor, Lemual Chipman; town clerk, Gideon Pitts; assessors, Philip Reed, William Pitts, Solomon Woodruff; constable and collector, Jonas Belknap; commissioner of highways, Solomon Woodruff; fence viewers, Gideon Pitts, Elijah Parker, Stiles Parker, Roswell Turner; pathmasters, Peter Pitts, Cyrus Chipman, Solomon Woodruff, Aaron Hunt, Roswell Turner; overseers of the poor, Peter Pitts, Philip Reed.

Richmond Mills and Dennison's Corners

Asa Dennison and Levi Blackmer came to this locality in 1795. They settled at what was called Dennison's Corners, because of the fine stand of timber, thinking that this denoted fertile land. A part of the old farm passed through many hands and was at last acquired by Richmond Blackmer. Levi Blackmer bought 150 acres. He cut and cleared some land and piled his first brush heap on a knoll a few rods south of the Richmond Blackmer house. On Sept. 5, 1799 he married Hannah Pitts, daughter of Capt. Peter Pitts.

"Philip Reed came in 1795 from Vermont. The other men of the party were Dr. Cyrus Chipman, who settled on the farm known as the "Stout" place, on which is the brick house a mile east of Allen's Hill; Judge Chipman, who settled on the farm where David

A. Pierpont now resides; Asa Dennison, Levi Blackmer, Pierce Chamberlain, and Isaac Adams. With Philip Reed came also his three sons, born in Vermont, John, Silas and Wheeler.

"Philip Reed came from Pawlet, Vermont. His Father's name was Jacob. The Reeds came to Vermont from Connecticut.

The Fitch family are descended from Rev. James Fitch, who came from Bocking, Eng. in 1638, and founded the Congregational church at Saybrook, Conn., moved to Norwich, Conn., and later to Lebanon, Conn., where he died. His son, Major James Fitch, was a valiant Indian fighter. His wife's name was Abial. Major Fitch's son, William, who was the Father of Philip Reed's wife, was born Sept. 18, 1734. He married Altie Wheeler Oct. 9, 1760, she being a widow. It is possible that her Mother's name was Slyck. Capt. Fitch died in 1785 and Altie Fitch married Capt. Elisha Clark in February, 1788. He lived only until the following August and in 1795 Mrs. Clark came to Richmond with her daughters; she died in 1776, aged 88 years. William and Altie Fitch had eight children, seven daughters and one boy. Abial married Nathaniel Harmon; Margaret married Philip Reed; Sinai married Lemuel Chipman; Rachel m. Ozias Clark; Altie died when 11 years of age; Sybil;— Anna, m. Dr. Chipman; John, the third child died in Pawlet, Vermont, when 34 years of age.

The children of Philip Reed and Margaret Fitch are as follows: John T. Reed, b. 1781, m. Antha Steel; Silas, b. 1783, m. Alta Chipman; Wheeler, b. 1787, m. 1st, Olive Ridsen, 2nd, Hannah Ridsen; William, b. 1800, m. Amelia Palmer; Philip, b. 1806, m. Betsey Blackmer, daughter of Hannah Pitts and Levi Blackmer; they occupied the old homestead; Altea, died aged 17 years.

Philip Reed, Sr. died in 1728. He was a man of prominence; was the first assessor of the town and supervisor for a number of years. In 1803 he built a substantial brick house, the original Reed homestead. The timbers were cut on the Short farm and the bricks made across the road in the field now owned by C. E. Reed.

The one hundredth anniversary of the erection of the old homestead was observed in 1903. At least 475 persons were handsomely entertained on this occasion and the success of the undertaking was due primarily to the untiring and intelligent work of Mrs. Adelaide (Fayette) Short, the hostess. An historical paper was prepared and read by J. Wells Reed.

For the above records, together with those following of Hannah, William and Abigail Pitts, the writer is indebted to Mrs. Richmond Short.

CHAPTER V
PITTS FAMILY IN NEW YORK STATE
Children of CAPT. PETER PITTS and
ABIGAIL RICHMOND PITTS

Capt. Peter Pitts was born in 1736, died Dec. 15, 1812, aged 76 yrs.

Abigail Richmond, wife of Capt. Pitts b. 1744, d. July 26, 1807, aged 68 yrs. Capt. Pitts was about 53 years of age when he emigrated from Dighton, Mass., in 1789, with his family of ten children to the wilderness of New York State. One child, Philip, had died in infancy.

Children: Gideon, William, Samuel, Rebecca, Nancy, Abigail, Phebe, Sarah, Peter and Hannah.

Gideon, the oldest son took for a wife Lorinda Hulbird, who lived in Richmond.

William thrice married. His first wife was a resident of Dighton, Mass., Dorothy Walker. He married second, Miss Hannah Taft of East Bloomfield, daughter of one of the pioneers of that town. After the decease of his second wife he again went to Dighton for a companion and married Miss Hannah Richmond.

Samuel also sought a wife in Dighton. He married Miss Deborah Richmond, sister of Hannah Richmond, and after her decease he married Mrs. Persis Barnard.

Rebecca was twice married. Her first husband was Richmond Reed and the second, Jedediah Wood. Mr. Wood afterward moved to Manlius, Onondaga County.

Nancy, married for her first husband Mr. David Benton, from Litchfield, Conn., afterwards Chauncey Benton, also from Litchfield.

Abigail married Abel Short.

Phebe married Pierce Chamberlain.

Sarah married Joseph Sears. The city of Moline, Ill., was founded by their son, David Sears.

Peter married Miss Susan Tabor, of Erie County.

Hannah married Levi Blackmer and settled in the north west part of the town.

Capt. Peter Pitts and his wife Abigail, were buried in the old cemetery at Honeoye. Within a few years, however, their remains, together with those of his son Gideon and his family, were removed to the new cemetery at Honeoye. Here a large monument was erected to the memory of Capt. Pitts, his wife, sister Hannah, and others, while smaller stones were erected for the others. Tablets were placed upon the lot, upon which is an imperishable record of the coming of these pioneers to Honeoye. This remarkable tribute to their memory was made by Mrs. Spencer Short and her sister Eva Pitts, grandchildren of Gideon Pitts, the oldest son of Capt. Peter Pitts and Abigail Richmond Pitts.

Of the large tract of land, 3000 acres, owned by Capt. Pitts at the settlement of Honeoye, only that land occupied by George and Thomas Blackmer, sons of Myron Blackmer, is now owned by his descendants.

Also, although many of his descendants still live in Honeoye, Richmond and Livonia, there is no one by the name of 'Pitts' among them.

The same can be said of the names of 'Richmond' and 'Benton,' early pioneers of these towns.

PITTS FAMILY IN NEW YORK STATE

Gideon Pitts (2) the oldest child of Capt. Peter Pitts, was born in Dighton, Mass. in 1766, died in Honeoye, July 29, 1828. He married Lorenda Hulbird, b. 1780, died 1844.

Children:

1. Hiram Pitts (3) b. 1803, married Frances Post, of Moline, Ill. d. Mar. 27, 1901. They had no children. Lillian, an adopted child married John K. Butler.
2. David Benton Pitts (3) b. 1804, died Dec. 1857. He never married.
3. Gideon Pitts (3) b. 1807, married Jane Wells, died June 18, 1888.
4. William Pitts (3) b. 1809, died Aug. 8, 1821, aged 12 years.
5. Phoebe Pitts (3) b. 1812, died Apr. 23, 1835, aged 23 years.
6. John Pitts (3) b. 1814, died Oct. 1, 1831, aged 17 years.
7. Cyrus Pitts (3) b. 1817, died Apr. 1, 1880, married Margaret Buckley. He was a Congregational Minister and died in Switzerland of consumption.

Children:

Hiram Pitts (4) drowned while a young man.

Etta Pitts (4) married Joseph Breck of Austin, Texas; child, Margaret.

8. Caroline Pitts (3) married Elias Gilbert; children: Cyrus, Weeping Water, Neb. Caroline, m. Mr. Jewett, N.Y.

9. William Pitts (3) died young.

Children of Gideon Pitts (3) and Jane Wells Pitts.

Helen Pitts (4) married Hon. Frederick Douglas.

Jennie Pitts (4) never married.

Lorinda Pitts (4) married Spencer Short.

Gideon Pitts (4) died in infancy.

Eva Pitts (4) never married.

G. Wells Pitts (4) m. Elizabeth Sheldon. They live in Alton, Iowa.

Children: Gideon, m. Gladys—ch. Gladys Pitts.
Chauncey, Clara, m. Mr. Foote, ch.
Elizabeth. Eva, married Arthur Lor-
rimer; Elizabeth, not married.

Children of Spencer D. Short and Lorinda Pitts Short.

Abbie Short (4) married Everett O. Terry, of East Bloomfield, N.Y.
children: George, m. Ruth Horton, Rochester, N. Y.
ch. Spencer, Sherwin.

Florence.

Clarence, m. Leah Marble, Yakima, Wash-
ington, ch. Harold, Ralph.

Helen, m. Dr. Chas. Ransom, Schenectady,
N. Y. ch. Margaret, Charles.

Ralph, Paul, Isadore.

Nellie Short (4) married Jas. B. Bothwell, Breckeridge, Missouri.

Children: Eugene,

Allison, m. Hazel Booth, Idaho.

Spencer, m. Jaunita Hall, ch. James,
Spencer, Mary.

Charlotte, m. Dr. Wm. H. Thompson,
Riverside, Cal.

ch. Howard, Benson, David.

Rowena, not married.

Wells S. Short (4) married Johanna DeJong, Orange City,
Iowa.

Florence Short (4) married William H. Ellis, Livonia, N.Y.
children, Dorothy.

Ralph Short (4) married Nellie Bostwick, Wapato, Wash-
ington.
children: Esther, m. Winfield Boyd, Walla
Walla, Washington.

Gideon Pitts Short (4) m. Mary Bostwick, ch. Spencer, Kather-
ine, Philip, Margaret.

The following obituaries of Hiram Pitts and Gideon Pitts, grandsons of Capt. Peter Pitts, also the family record, were given the writer by Mrs. William Ellis, of Livonia, N. Y. who writes as follows:

"I feel that we may be justly proud of our ancestry. A people who brought good names with them, and noble thought and stainless honor. That these principles were inculcated in the minds of their children is shown in the following tribute to them:

"Last Monday morning (June, 1888) the town of Richmond, N. Y., lost one of its oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, in the death of Gideon Pitts, at the age of 81 years. Mr. Pitts was a notable character, and he belonged to a historic family. His grandfather, Capt. Peter Pitts, of Dighton, Mass., was a captain in the Revolutionary War. Peter Pitts, with his sons, Gideon and William, came soon after the close of that war to the foot of Honeoye Lake, where they settled. These men and their families were the civil, the religious, the political and the business backbone and the life of what is now the town of Richmond, for more than half a century. Gideon Pitts had nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second, being born in 1807 on the old original homestead near the foot of Honeoye Lake. Hiram, the oldest, is the oldest survivor. He is still hale and hearty at the age of 85, ably filling a responsible post in the Treasury Department in Washington, to which he was appointed during Lincoln's administration. Gideon was raised on the farm. He married Jane Wells and they had five children. The oldest married Hon. Frederick Douglass. She was an able, accomplished woman. He had but one son, Gideon, now a lawyer and banker in Alton, Iowa. In politics Mr. Pitts was first a Whig, then one of the earliest and most persistent and most consistent of abolitionists. But few of those able brain men remain. The present generation is just awakening to their sterling worth and honest work. They were simply an advance guard of a growing civilization. Mr. Pitts was always in the strictest sense a private citizen. In the service of the state militia he rose to the rank of colonel. With this exception he uniformly refused public positions which were constantly offered to and urged upon him. He was pre-eminently a farmer, full of push, enterprise and noted for an excellent judgment. He was the soul of probity and honor and personal rectitude, and the hospitality of his home was noted and proverbial. His funeral was attended by a vast concourse of his wide circle of many personal friends who came from all the surrounding country. He was buried in the cemetery where so many of the early settlers and solid men of the town of Richmond now lie."

"The death of Hiram Pitts, Mar. 27, 1901, at the age of 99 years, occurred at his home in Anacostia, D. C. The remains were brought to Honeoye for burial. The funeral services were held at the home of his niece, Mrs. Spencer Short. The death of Mr. Pitts, whose life had spanned nearly a century, removes an important figure, not only in the history of Ontario County, but one who has for a long period of years been a trusted and faithful employee of the government. The hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the town was celebrated in 1889, and on that occasion Mr. Pitts made an appropriate address, he being the only person present who had a personal recollection of those early days. His youth and early manhood were spent in his native town, where he engaged in an active and successful business life, holding many positions of trust and responsibility. Seven different times he was chosen Supervisor of his town. In the early 50's Mr. Pitts, with two brothers and a brother-in-law, went to Moline, Ill, where they invested heavily. Then came the financial panic of 1857, in which the property of the Pitts brothers was entirely swept away. In 1864 he entered the government service as a clerk in the Treasury Department, which position he retained for over thirty years, retiring from active business life at the age of 92. From the competency thus obtained he saved a sufficient amount to pay to the last dollar the debts incurred by his bankruptcy, after which he purchased the house and grounds known as Woodlawn Anacostia, D. C. In 1856 he married Miss Frances Post, of Moline, who with one adopted daughter survives him. Mr. Pitts' mental faculties remained unimpaired to the last, and his physical vigor was remarkable until within a few months of his death. He always retained a lively interest in everything pertaining to his native town. It was his request that his final resting place should be in the Honeoye Valley."

PITTS FAMILY in New York State

William Pitts (2) m. 1st Dorothy Walker, of Dighton, Mass.

Ch. George Pitts, William Pitts.

2nd. Hannah Taft of East Bloomfield, N. Y.

ch. Philip, d. 1813, ae. 16; Caroline, d. 1815, ae. 3 yrs., Alonson, d. 1815, ae. 6 yrs.

3rd Hannah Richmond, of Dighton, Mass.

ch. Perez Richmond Pitts, d. Apr. 5, 1877, ae. 73 yrs.

Abby B. Pitts, d. May 29, 1874, ae. 66 yrs.

Hannah Pitts, d. Mar. 26, 1882, ae. 76 yrs.

George Pitts (3), married Mary Swan.

Children:

Caroline Pitts (4) m. Richard Reed, grandson of Richard Reed
& Rebecca Pitts.

Mary Pitts (4)

George Pitts (4)

William Pitts (3) married Emily Pomeroy.

Children:

William Pitts (4) married 1st—Phillips, 2nd Hattie Blackmer.

Charles Pitts (4)

Children of Caroline Pitts and Richard Reed:

Abbie Reed (5) married Edgar Barber; ch. Ruth and Loyd.

George Reed (5) married Ella Brown.

Kittie Reed (5) married J. Wells Reed, son of Charles Reed, a
cousin of Mrs. Adelaide (Reed) Short.

Abigail Pitts (2) married Abel Short.

Children:

Laura Short (3) married Dr. Lathan.

Maria Short (3) married Mr. Thompson.

Rosina Short (3) married Erastus Hills; ch. George, John, Caro-
line, Benton, Mary, Marcia, Erastus.
None of the seven children married.

Abbie Short (3) married Samuel Crooks.

Lorinda Short (3) married Nelson Garlinghouse; ch. Jennie Gar-
linghouse m. Mr. Shull; ch. Belle Gar-
linghouse.

Nancy Pitts (2) married first in 1796 David Benton, of Litchfield,
Conn.

Children:

Phebe Benton, married Adolphus Watkins, of Lima.

Mary Benton, married John Gould, of Richmond.

Gideon Pitts Benton, married — ch. Hiram.

Ebenezer Benton, married Lavinia Freeman, of Pultneyville, N. Y.

Children: Nancy, Hiram, Phebe, Mary, Helen, William, James
David, Jennie. (See Benton Family in N.Y. State.)

Nancy Pitts Benton married 2nd after 1806 Chauncey Benton, of
Litchfield, Conn.

Children: Samuel, Peter, Chauncey and Benton. (See Barnard
Family.)

PITTS FAMILY in N. Y. STATE

Hannah Pitts (2) married Levi Blackmer and settled in the Northwest part of the town.

Children:

Sally Blackmer (3) died at the age of 12 years.
 Thomas Blackmer (3) never married.
 Harvey Blackmer (3) married Elizabeth Hays of Bristol, N.Y.
 Betsey Blackmer (3) married Phillip Reed, 2nd.
 Junia Blackmer (3) married Porter Fowler of Livonia, N.Y.
 Levi Blackmer (3) moved to Michigan and married there.
 Richmond Blackmer (3) never married; lived and died at the old homestead in the Northwest part of the town of Richmond and is buried there.

Children of Harvey Blackmer (3) and Elizabeth Hays.

Elizabeth Blackmer (4) married Mr. Plum.

Myron Blackmer (4) married Hattie Pennell.

Sarah Blackmer (4) married Frank Pennell.

Children of Myron Blackmer (4) and Hattie Pennell:

John Blackmer (5) married.

Frank Blackmer (5) married Elizabeth Murphy.

Carl Blackmer (5) married Hattie Van Buren.

Bessie Blackmer (5) married Spencer Sisson; ch. Elizabeth married Ray Parsons.

Hattie Blackmer (5) married John Reed.

Thomas Blackmer (5) married Carrie Reed; ch. Wells Blackmer, Caroline Blackmer, Charles Blackmer.

George Blackmer (5) married Ouida Crandall.

Children of Sarah Blackmer (4) and Frank Pennell:

Elizabeth Pennell (5)

Sarah Pennell (5) married Frank Kent; ch. Georgie Kent.

Betsey Blackmer (3) married Philip Reed, 2nd.

Children:

Clark Reed (4) married.

Gilbert Reed (4) married Almeda Pennell; ch. Alice and Sarah Reed.

Adelaide Reed (4) married Fayette Short.

Alice Reed (4)

Thomas Reed (4) married Elmira Pennell.

Children of Adelaide Reed (4) and Fayette Short:

- Myra Short (5) married Arthur Newton, ch. Fayette Newton, m. Lillian Bauer; ch. Elizabeth. Bessie Newton.
- Clark Short (5)
- Bessie Short (5)
- Richmond Short (5) married Martha Newton; ch. Harold C. Short.
- Perrez Short (5)
- Junia Short (5)

Children of Thomas Reed (4) and Elmira Pennell:

- Fanny Reed (5) married Frank Campbell; children, Reed Campbell, Everett Campbell, Frank Campbell.
- Alice Reed (5)
- Charles B. Reed (5)

CHAPTER VI

Traditions of the FREEMAN FAMILY

The following is copied from the "Freeman Genealogy," prepared by Dr. Frederick Freeman, who was a descendant of the Freemans of Sandwich, Massachusetts. Edmund Freeman was the first of this branch who settled in this country. He and his descendants were all important people on Cape Cod.

"Samuel Freeman, probably a brother of Edmund, settled in Watertown, Mass. He had a son Henry, also a grandson Henry, and it would seem probable that the Henry Freeman, of Woodbridge, N. J., born in 1672, was a relative of these men. However, Mr. Freeman Loomis writes that he has found no connection with the Massachusetts Freemans:"

"Traditions are found everywhere, and are valuable according to location. By an elderly gentleman originating from New Jersey, we were in 1856 assured confidently that the "Jersey tradition is, that four Brothers from England—possibly New England—settled in New Jersey two of them in Newark, one in Rahway, and another in Morristown.

A gentleman in Newark, equally confident, said in 1848, "A Freeman, whose name was probably John, came from Oxford, Eng., bringing wife and children, in company with William Penn's first colony, 1681, and from his family originated the New Jersey Freemans."

"The legend is that he left a widow and three sons, Edward, Henry and Samuel. It is said Henry was apprenticed in Philadelphia, and, not relishing the treatment he there received, he left and went to Woodbridge, N. J., and there, on reaching his majority, married a French woman. Then, returning to Philadelphia, was prosecuted by his former master for breach of contract. Returning to Woodbridge, he settled there, and by industry and enterprise, secured an ample fortune, so that he died leaving large landed possessions."

Until we inquired of that aged, intelligent and remarkable woman, Mrs. Ashbel Freeman, whose Father was Mr. James Freeman, born in Woodbridge, 1740, she had never heard the above legend; but cited quite another legend received from her Father, viz., that the "ancestry" came from New England."

"If we shall now notice particularly a case or two connected with New Jersey and other parts, it is because the notes before us tell of native energy of character, of vicissitudes, enjoyments and trials, in both seaside and frontier life, and show how economy, industry, and judicious investments have crowned enterprise and perseverance. We select, with this in view, one instance—that of Mr. Ashbel Freeman, born 1755, the son of Isaac of Woodbridge; and whose second wife was Zeruiah Freeman, daughter of James Freeman, b. 1740, and whom he married in Woodbridge 1794. (His first wife was Anna Crane.)

Mr. Freeman was a widower, of 57, with four daughters, when he took to wife his cousin Zeruiah, she being 37 years his junior. The connection was pleasant in its experience; and it is noticeable, that of the large family of eleven children, the issue of Mr. Freeman by his two marriages, all were daughters, viz. four by his first marriage and seven by the last. If ever a man influenced by his business avocations might reasonably covet the co-operation of sons, we would think this an instance. Still, there was in all the domestic relations of this family entire harmony and much felicity.

Mrs. Ashbel Freeman's life was a remarkable experience, as is evident by her interesting letter, 1857, written when she was 81 years old, and had been a widow 34 years. Her husband died June 9, 1823, aged 68, in Farmersville, N. Y. She tells us, "My father, b. 1740, said his forefather was from New England. Three brothers came over; one settled in Massachusetts, one in Connecticut, and one in New Jersey." (It is to be noted that Mrs. F. had evidently never heard of the tradition (?) of the coming of her ancestor with Penn's colony to Philadelphia.) My Husband, b. 1755, told me the same. My father's ten children are all now deceased but Jeremiah and myself. My husband was a distant relative of mine, a widower with four daughters.

In the letter of this intelligent and remarkable woman, addressed to us June 27, 1857, she continues: "My father was a very industrious person, and carried on the tannery business. They saw hard times in the Revolution. I was four weeks old when the British came into the Hook. It was necessary for my parents to hide their clothing and all provisions, to keep the British from stealing them. An uncle

lived close by who had a large family, and my life was a very pleasant one. I was always very resolute and ambitious and went ahead. I was in my 18th year when I went into my husband's family. I got along with the children very well. I had four children while in New Jersey; and then Mr. Freeman sold out and removed to Herkimer County, N. Y. His eldest daughter (Huldah) married Smith Freeman, and removed to the same place. It was almost a wilderness. I would not have consented to remove; but Mr. Freeman would follow the sea, and was from home most of the time. We now had hard work and fared pretty hard. Mr. F. commenced building a sawmill and then a gristmill and a carding-machine and dwelling house. By this time I had seven girls and never had trouble until I lost a brother; a mother, and my sister Nancy, who had married Gage Bloodgood and lived on the adjoining farm, died. I also lost my youngest daughter the same year, 1807, drowned in the mill-race. We lived in Herkimer until 1815. Mr. Freeman's girls by the first marriage were all married, and my two eldest were married and going West; so both Mr. Freeman and myself concluded to sell out and go too. My eldest daughter and her husband moved to Batavia; my 2nd daughter, who married William Bard, came along with us and lived on the farm. We saw some hard times; we came a year before 'the cold season' and had to give \$16 per barrel for flour, \$35 for pork, 14 shillings per bushel for rye and everything was dear in proportion. We had to build a dwelling house, barns and shed; lumber was very dear. Wolves were killing our sheep and bears our hogs. All our neighbors we could call by the sound of the horn. We went to keeping tavern and Mr. Bard carried on the farm. My husband went to building a gristmill, as there was a good mill-site on the farm. Two other daughters married—one to Judge Ten Broeck the other to Mr. Read. The Ten Broeck farm adjoins ours. Mr. Freeman was now taken with hectic fever, and was never well after, though he had all his improvements ready but the millstones and bolting cloths when he died. I have lived ever since with my two daughters who were born lame, until last Nov. 10, when Hannah died, aged 51. She was a pleasant child. Catherine is now living with me. Mr. F. made provision in his will for these daughters. They have earned a great deal with their needle; the latter kept school seven years before her father died and after that took to sewing and attended to my business. I had at first a great deal of bad luck—losing my stock by murrain and hoof-ail; but after all, the Lord has blessed me with prosperity. Notwithstanding I have seen many dark days, I am now in my 80th year, and, but

that my eyes have troubled me the year past, can do a great deal of work."

Traditions of the Freeman Family

"We venture now to give an extract from a letter dated 1847, from the afflicted but loving and dutiful Catherine."

"My Father, Ashbel Freeman, was born in Matuchias, N. J., my Mother, Zeruiah, in Woodbridge. My parents removed to Herkimer, N. Y. when I was but two years old. I have a faint idea of things as they appeared when we moved along the road. It was a wilderness. Father took up a tract that had a mill-seat on it. We built first a log house and then a saw mill. My father's brother had moved to Herkimer before this and was a millwright. My Uncle Bloodgood was a carpenter. Father proceeded to build a dwelling-house, gristmill, carding machine, etc. By this time my mother had seven daughters. The sixth was born lame, the same as myself. I never thought of my lameness. My Father was extremely kind, and my sisters thought I must go wherever they did, so I went to school. I became very fond of reading. Every moment was a pastime. My Mother was a very hard working woman. My Father had a great deal to do and was much away from home on business. (The records of Herkimer County, say that Hon. Ashbel Freeman, was one of the Judges of the old Court of Common Pleas.)

He was very precise in his dealings, had the goodwill of all the settlements around him, and prospered in all his undertakings. How often have I listened when he told of his affairs and of his experience in the Revolution. When he proposed moving again into the wilderness, it was just what suited my fancy. Father trapped and hunted; and I kept account of the wolves, bears, deer, wild cats, etc. taken. My sister had to use crutches, I walked with a cane. Father purchased a piano for sister and me, with which to amuse ourselves. I have taken all the comfort any one could and have never yet seen a person with whom I would be willing to change situations. I knew no trouble until my sister's health began to decline. Last Fall she departed from this world, reconciled, as she said, to the will of her heavenly Father. It seems as though I could not be reconciled to her death. Mother is in her 81st year, but she superintends her farming business altogether and does considerable work. I shall be 58 next December."

"Mrs. Freeman gives clearly a truly faithful account of herself. We have felt no regrets in devoting so considerable space to her letter and that of her daughter."

Freeman Family in New York State

In a history of Herkimer County, N. Y. we find that Isaac Freeman built the first gristmill in 1795.

His son, Ashbel, who married 1st Anna Crane, 2nd, his second cousin Zeruiah Freeman, moved to Farmersville, N. Y. in 1815. He is recorded as a resident in 1821. The record reads, "Hon. Ashbel Freeman, was one of the Judges of the old Court of Common Pleas."

His daughter, Mary, married Judge Peter Ten Broeck, who was later the largest landowner in Western New York. He began with 200 acres and later owned 8000 acres, all lying within the towns of Farmersville, Franklinville and Machias.

Another daughter of Mr. Freeman married a Mr. Read, one a Mr. Bard, and the oldest daughter, Huldah Freeman, married her second cousin, Smith Freeman.

They were the parents of Lavinia Freeman who lived in Pultneyville, N. Y. and married Ebenezer Benton.

FREEMAN FAMILY in New York State

Henry Freeman (1) b. Aug. 7, 1672, married Elizabeth Bonue.
Children:

Isaac Freeman (2) b. May 25, 1715.
Henry Freeman (2) b. Mar. 23, 1717.

Isaac Freeman (2) married Sarah Tappan.
Children:

Isaac Freeman (3)
Ashbel Freeman (3)

Henry Freeman (2) married Mary Read.
Children:

Thomas Freeman (3) b. 1748-9.

Isaac Freeman (3) married Elizabeth Elston.
Children:

Moses Freeman (4) b. June 9, 1776.

Ashbel Freeman (3) married 1st Anna Crane; children, Huldah, 3 others.
married 2nd Zeruiah Freeman; ch. Hannah, Catherine and others.

Thomas Freeman (3) married Sarah Moore, ch. Smith Freeman, b. Nov. 19, 1774. Rachel Freeman b. May 22, 1781.

Moses Freeman (4), grandson of Isaac Freeman, Sr. (2) married Rachel Freeman (4) grand daughter of Henry Freeman (2).

Children:

Sarah Ann Freeman, b. in Warren, Herkimer Co. N. Y. She married Justin R. Loomis. Mr. Freeman Loomis, who has prepared a genealogy of the Freeman family is her son. He was born in Waterville, Maine, May 21, 1844.

Smith Freeman (4), Thomas (3), Henry (2), Henry (1), married Huldah Freeman (4), Ashbel (3), Isaac (2), Henry (1)

Children:

Rebecca married Mr. Austin.

Rachel married Mr. Reed.

Lavinia married Ebenezer Benton. (See Benton Genealogy, Part 2.)

John married Susan Keyser.

Mary Ann married Mr. Weiser; they had two adopted children, John and Mary.

Children of Rachel Freeman and Mr. Reed.

Jennie Reed married Mr. Boulter.

Anna Reed married Mr. Blount; ch. Frank Blount. He has a large family.

Nellie Reed married Mr. Mason; ch. Herbert, Fred, and Leo. Herbert has three children.

Hattie Reed married Mr. Brainerd; ch. Clarence, who has three sons. His son Guy has children, Noble, Ruth and Carrie, deceased.

Mary Reed married Mr. Noble King. They had no children.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble King had a fine home in Bloomington, Ill., where they were extensive property owners. After the death of her husband, Mrs. King continued for some time to live in Bloomington, but has recently moved to Pasadena, Cal. where she intends to reside permanently.

John Freeman was always prominent in the affairs of the Town of Ontario, N. Y., in which he lived. A quiet man, honored by all who knew him. Through an unfortunate accident he was killed by a runaway horse. John Freeman married Susan Keyser. Their children are Mary and Florence.

Mary Freeman married William Bennett, of Williamson, N. Y. who is in the coal and lumber business of that town.

The children of William Bennett and Mary Freeman are Pauline, John and William. John was a graduate from Yale College and was in active service in the late World War. Pauline was a graduate from Wellesley College and is now teaching in Williamson.

Of the Bennett genealogy we have the following:

John P. Bennett was born in Williamson, July 10, 1821, and was the son of Josiah and Ruth Reeves Bennett, who came to America from England with his parents and settled in Hudson.

Josiah Bennett was educated at Pittsfield, Mass. medical college and came to Williamson in 1815 and practiced his profession until his death in 1850. John P. Bennett, his son, was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools and Marion Academy. He married in 1861 Sarah M. daughter of William and Delilah Bradley, early settlers of Williamson. They had four children, viz: William J. Bennett, married Mary Freeman, Albert B. Bennett, John D. Bennett, died in infancy; R. May, and Samuel S. Bennett.

Florence Freeman married Mr. DeZutter, of Williamson, N. Y. He is now proprietor of a large boot and shoe store of that place. Mr. DeZutter is the son of Cornelius DeZutter, who for fifty years has been one of the most influential men of Williamson. He was the founder and owner for many years of a large general store of Williamson.

Florence Freeman and Mr. Edward DeZutter have two children living, Christine, who has been for some time a teacher in Atlanta, Ga. Freeman, who is in school in Williamson. Charles, deceased.

PART III

The Kansas Emigrants

We cross the prairie as of old
The pilgrims crossed the sea,
To make the West, as they the East,
The homestead of the free.

We go to rear a wall of men
On Freedom's southern line,
And plant beside the cotton-tree
The rugged Northern pine.

We're flowing from our native hills
As our free waters flow;
The blessing of our Mother-land
Is on us as we go.

We go to plant her common schools
On distant prairie swells,
And give the Sabbath of the wild
The music of her bells.

Upbearing, like the Ark of old,
The Bible in our van,
We go to test the truth of God
Against the fraud of man.

We'll tread the prairie as of old
Our Fathers sailed the sea,
And make the West, as they the East,
The homestead of the free.

John G. Whittier.



RESIDENCE OF HON. WM. R. BENTON
Blaine, Potawottamie Co, Kansas

CHAPTER I

DAVID BENTON and NANCY PITTS,

Their Descendants in the "Far West."

Perhaps no greater sacrifices were made or hardships endured by our ancestors than by those pioneers of our family, who, in the days when the large tracts of land were opened up in Kansas, went out to seek their fortune. In this great country of ours there has always been room "further West." Truly, the "History of America is the story of the Pioneer, and on our shifting frontiers the race has been hammered and tempered to a cutting edge."

We find not many famous names among them, but their lives of heroism under adverse conditions have a lesson for those of us who are still living, which certainly merits our highest commendation.

Nancy, Phebe, Mary and William Benton, were children of Ebenezer Benton and Lavinia Freeman, and grandchildren of David Benton and Nancy Pitts. (See Page 56, Part 2.)

Nancy Benton, the eldest daughter of Ebenezer Benton, married Ira Ward and they early removed to Decorah, Iowa. They had a large family of thirteen children. The writer well remembers as a child a visit made by Aunt Nancy, accompanied by her two daughters, Daisy and Jessie, to their home in Andover, N. Y. She was much like her sister Phebe in stature and appearance, a real Benton, resolute, ingenious and capable.

Phebe Benton, married Benjamin Stonecipher. They moved to Cummings, Kansas, and made a home for themselves on a large farm not far from that town. At first they were handicapped by a small house, but later a fine addition was added, much to the enjoyment of their children, Nellie, Maud, Addison and Charlie. Aunt Phebe died of the "Grippe" at the time Grandmother Benton passed away and they are both buried in the cemetery at Cummings. Uncle Ben Stonecipher is still living at Cummings, although the old home has been sold.

Phebe Benton was a strong woman, both physically and mentally, a leader in the community in which she lived. A woman, who, by her strength of character, was able through all those trying years of home making in a new land to so encourage and sustain her large

family that when success came, they realized how much had been due to her unflinching courage and noble example.

Nellie Stonecipher married Mr. Lon Maddock, and they recently have lived in Kansas City, Mo. and St. Petersburg, Florida.

Maud Stonecipher married Mr. Bilderback and they have two children, Nellie and Lillie.

Mary Benton married William Henrie and lived in Salem, Illinois, for some years. They had three children, Charles, Mamie and James. They later removed to Blaine, Kansas, and lived near Mrs. Henrie's brother, William Benton, for many years. In later life they lived at times with their son Charles, in Topeka, and with their daughter, Mamie, in Wamego, Kansas.

Mary Benton was, in many respects, a remarkable woman. Well educated, a brilliant conversationalist, a woman of culture and refinement. Out on the Kansas prairies, with a limited opportunity for schools, she was practically both mother and teacher to her three children, educating them herself, and giving them a love for good literature, which is not so often obtained under more favorable circumstances. Neither sickness or trial could daunt her brave spirit, over every obstacle she rose triumphant.

James Henrie, the youngest son, went to Colorado some years ago and died there.

Charles A. Henrie married Margaret McIntosh. For several years he occupied a prominent position at the State Capitol, Topeka, Kansas. Later was editor of a paper in Colorado and again at Lansing, Kansas. Recently he has been with the Jones Motor Car Co. of Wichita, as advertising manager. He writes as follows:

"I love the West; but I should love to be with you all at Plymouth Rock and do honor to the memory of those who landed there. Whatever else they did they built up a remarkable code of ideal citizenship.—I believe the world is growing better; human nature is better understood and more studied today than ever before. As this understanding progresses we shall know each other better. The strong will be more willing to assist the weak; we shall be less exclusive in our likes and dislikes; the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man will be the more prevalent creed."

C. A. Henrie and Margaret Henrie have four children, Maurice, Aurelia, Mabel and one other daughter.

Maurice Henrie married Flora Bryson. They have a fine boy, Waldine. Their home is in Sultana, California.

Aurelia Henrie married William Beckwith, until recently Sales Manager of the Jones Motor Car Co., of Wichita. After the fire which destroyed the plant, they removed to La Pryor, Texas, where he is engaged in the lumber business.

Mabel Henrie is married and has children, Aurelia May, Henrie and others.

Mamie Henrie, daughter of Mary Benton and William Henrie married J. K. Coddington, when quite a young girl, and it can truly be said that during the many busy years they have not lived unto themselves, but for the betterment of humanity. Mr. J. K. Coddington was first a lawyer, and the practice of his profession brought them both into close contact with all the activities of the State and the political life at Topeka, where they lived after removing from Wamego.

For a number of years he has been Warden of the State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas. Here he has made a brilliant record by carrying out with the greatest success his modern ideas of prison reform.

Their children are Lynn, Harold and Vona.

Lynn is married and has several children.

Harold married, they have one child; live in Oklahoma.

Vona lives with her parents and is engaged in social service work.

Hon. William Richmond Benton, married Delia Fowler, daughter of Stephen Fowler, of Livonia, N. Y.

He served throughout the Civil War as a private soldier and was the only one of the three sons of Eben Benton who went through the war without injury.

Not long after his marriage he removed to Andover, N. Y., where he was associated with his brother, Hiram Benton, in the drug business. Upon the opening of land in Kansas, he decided to try his fortune there, and with others from Andover, started for that new country. Not through a wilderness this time, but overland by rail. The writer remembers the day they left Andover and how

hard it was to part with the little family, their daughter Alice, being a small child at that time. William Benton "took up" 160 acres of land in Blaine, Pottawottamie County, Kansas, and with great courage began the making of a home on the western prairies. There were no Indians to subdue but many other hard trials to bear. Meeting with success at first, only to have every vestige of crops swept away by hordes of grasshoppers. In those trying days, friends back in New York State packed many a barrel with necessities, such as dried fruits, vegetable seeds, etc. to tide the Kansas relatives over until they could prepare for another harvest. As children we picked up maple seeds by the pailful, which later grew upon Mr. Benton's farm as the wonderful Maple Grove adjoining his fine home.

William was a well educated man, and, during those days of beginnings, he taught the village school, riding many a weary mile on horseback, often through the deep snows of winter, to attend to his duties. He was also a godly man and he and his wife were leaders in the religious life of that section. The Bible and its truths came first in their lives. Truly, their children "had a goodly heritage."

Out from the little church at Blaine, where the Christian influence of Mr. and Mrs. William Benton and their sister, Mrs. Mary Benton Henry, was most strongly felt, have gone fifty or more missionaries to carry the joy of the Gospel to others.

As the years went by Mr. Benton bought more land. He became widely known throughout the county in which he lived and politically had great influence. Twice he was sent to the House of Representatives at Topeka, Kansas, as representative from his section of the country. At his house many of the notables of that day gathered. In later years he decided to sell his farm and move to Topeka, and here he lived a few years, with his wife, children and aged mother, Lavinia Freeman. His widow, Della Benton, kept the home for her children a few years longer, and passed away the same winter that Aunt Phebe, Grandmother Benton and others were so suddenly stricken with the "Grippe."

William Benton and Delia Fowler had five children: Allie, Frank, Delia, William and Nellie.

Allie married in Topeka and lived only a short time.

Delia married in Topeka and died some years after in Florida.

Frank Benton married Jessie——. For several years they lived in Chicago, Ill., then moved to Topeka, where he has been connected for over twenty-five years with the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe R.R. as head of the Drafting Department. They have four fine children.

William Benton, married Jessie——. At first they lived in Wichita, Kansas, then he was in Topeka in the office of the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe R. R. Recently he has moved to California. They have three splendid boys.

Nellie Benton, the youngest child, married David Garretson and moved to California. Mr. Garretson is in charge of a large ranch for the growing of oranges and lemons. They have two children, Mary Dell and Virginia.

After the death of their father, William Benton, and mother, Nellie lived until a young lady with her aunt, Mrs. Allison, of Wichita, and William with his aunt, Mrs. Bass. They were sisters of Mrs. Benton, and daughters of Stephen Fowler, of Livonia.

By referring to the genealogy of the Pitts families, it will be noticed that many other descendants of Capt. Peter Pitts and Abigail Richmond, besides those mentioned in Part 3, are engaged in the "Winning of the West."

Our Western frontiers are still being hammered out. The outlook of our western cousins is still Westward. The East has for them little of interest. It is too true that "East is East," and "West is West," in our day, but we believe that this chain of family history running down through the 300 years since the gallant "Mayflower" reached these shores, shall still bind their lives together, so that the "twain shall meet," and both be benefited thereby.

As we look back to those of our ancestry who accompanied that little band of Pilgrims on their search for a new country where they could worship God without persecution, and as we think of the many others, who, all down through the succeeding generations, have "kept the Faith," we feel that, as living descendants, we can have no better watchword than the following lines:

"Faith of our Fathers: living still
In spite of Dungeon, fire and sword;
O, how our hearts beat high with joy
When-e'er we hear that glorious word.
Faith of our Fathers, holy faith:
We will be true to thee till death."

APPENDIX

The writer is well aware that very much of interest to many branches of our family might have been included in these records, also that in many ways they are incomplete. Errors and omissions will naturally occur in a work of this kind, but the intention has been to give all the more important data regarding the families in all lines which was available at the time of arranging the records.

We are very glad to add here the record of a branch of the Benton family who were early pioneers from Livonia, N. Y. to Novi, Mich. (See Page 56.)

John Gould married Mary Pitts Benton, of Hemlock Lake, a daughter of David Benton and Nancy Pitts. They had three children: Amy, Jonathan and Mary. Amy Gould married Thomas Meyers, lived at Sparta, Mich. Their children were Perrin, who married and had several children; Henrietta married Hollis Hilton; Gould, a widower, lives in Sparta; Emogene married and lives in Sparta.

Johnathan Gould married Julia Gibbs: they had three children: Effie, married Mr. Kocher; had two daughters who are married: Amy, also married a Mr. Kocher; children, Janet, Orley, Mary, Jack; Fred Gould married and has several children.

Mary Gould married Orlando K. Pearsall. She died Feb. 12, 1917, ae 92 years. He died May 16, 1891, ae 65 years. They had three children, only one of whom, Fannie, reached maturity. Fannie was born Apr. 19, 1857; married Joseph H. Harper, Nov. 15, 1879. They had one son, Orland Pearsall, b. Jan. 27, 1882, who was adopted in infancy by his grandfather, Orlando K. Pearsall. Mrs. Harper was separated from her husband and July 12, 1887, married Payson M. Doty. Their daughter, Clara H. Doty, b. Mar. 11, 1892, married Ralph E. Seegar, Oct. 16, 1915. Mrs. Doty, with her son Orland Pearsall, and her children, Mr. and Mrs. Seegar, live in Grand Rapids, Mich.

A Mr. Cass Benton, descendant of Gideon Pitts Benton, lives near Northville, Mich. From records sent we find that Gideon P. Benton had also a son Richmond Pitts Benton, who died Jan. 1, 1855, ae 25 yrs. 9 mos.

Addition to Page 31:

Referring to the family history of the Bentons in Guilford, Conn., we quote again from Mr. Benton's records, as follows:

"Caleb's cousin, Lot Benton, lived in the old homestead at the head of the Green in Guilford. He married, second, Widow Anne (Lyman) Talcott, and her nephew, Lyman Beecher, had his home with them from infancy. Lyman Beecher's mother was Esther Lyman, the third wife of David Beecher. She died two days after Lyman was born, and he was cared for by his aunt, Mrs. Lot Benton. Family tradition says that the youth was not of hardy constitution when young and it was a perplexing question as to what he was best fitted for in life's employment. He was not practical enough to be a good farmer, but he took to theories as readily as a duck takes to water. So the couple, who were practical, decided that he should be a minister, sent him to college, and, in doing so, they unconsciously made a path to fame for themselves as the guardians of the 'Father of the Beecher Family.' Many amusing stories still linger of the eccentricities in his younger days of the since famous Lyman Beecher."

Addition to Page 21:

Peter Pitts (2) married Bethia Robinson, March 11, 1702.

Capt. Peter Pitts (3) married Abigail Richmond in 1764.

Addition to Page 59:

Ebenezer Benton b. Jan. 6, 1800: d. Sept. 16, 1880, married

Lavinia Freeman b. June 3, 1809: d. Jan. 12, 1899.

Addition to Page 78, "Pitts Family in N. Y. State."

Deed from John Smith, Sylvester Richmond and Calvin Jacobs, (for Dighton Land Co.) to Peter Pitts, Feb. 15, 1791.

"Know all men by these presents that we, John Smith, clerk, Sylvester Richmond, Esq., and Calvin Jacobs, Gent., all of Dighton in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for and in consideration of 150 Pounds, to us in hand paid by Peter Pitts of said Dighton, Gent., the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge: do sell, convey and quit all our right and title unto three forty sixths parts of a tract of new land in the County of Ontario, State of New York: which tract is bounded on the East by Township No. 9 of the Third Range of Townships in the county aforesaid—six miles the whole width of said township and holding the same width or extends in parallel lines six miles wide from said township westerly from said township eleven miles, the three forty sixth of which described tract is hereby conveyed.

For the lots already drawn therein by said Pitts, reference to be had to the records of the Dighton Land Co. and as there laid down on Lots 23-27-52, the west half of No. 20 and the west half of No. 50 in the east Township and Lots 14-38-55 and the east half of Lot 40 in the West Township in the aforescribed tract, excepting and reserving the 2/60 of the aforesaid tract for public use. To have and to hold, etc.—

In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our hands and seals this fifteenth day of February one thousand, seven hundred and ninety-one.

Signed: John Smith, Sylvester Richmond, Calvin Jacobs.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of us, Samuel Tolbert, George Pitts, Gideon Pitts, Samuel B. Richmond. And Susanna the wife of Sylvester Richmond; Alice, wife of John Smith, and Hannah, wife of Calvin Jacobs, in testimony of relinquishing their right of thirds to the written premises have set their hands and seals, Mar. 1, 1791.

Signed, Alice Smith, Susannah Richmond, Hannah Jacobs.

In presence of us John Smith, George Coddington."

Addition to Page 78:

Lucia Richmond, daughter of George B. Richmond, married Daniel Bosley of Hemlock Lake. They were the grandparents of Mr. Claire McClintock, who lived in the Bosley house, which was also the old Richmond Homestead.

Addition to Page 42

**Also Col. Benj. Tupper's 10th Regt; service
from Aug. 25, 1781; 16 months; 7 days.**

Addition to Page 21, "Hatch Genealogy".

Joseph Hatch (3) b. Mar. 7, 1664, m. Amy Allen, Dec. 7, 1683. He succeeded to the paternal mansion: died Feb. 16, 1738, ae 84.

Children:

Lydia (4) born 1684.

Amy (4) born 1687: m. Johnathan Delano of New Bedford, Mass. Their daughter, Susannah m. Capt. Noah Grant, of Tolland, Conn: she was the great-grandmother of President Grant.

Joseph (4) b. 1689	Bethia (4) b. 1700
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Ichabod (4) b. 1691	Ebenezer (4) b. 1702
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Ruth (4) b. 1693	Barnabas (4) b. 1704
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Joanna (4) b. 1696

Elizabeth (4) b. 1697

Joseph, Ichabod and Barnabas settled in Tolland and Kent, Conn.

Benjamin (3) b. Sept. 7, 1655; m. June 1678, Mary Hamblin; m. 2nd Elizabeth Eddy, Tisbury, Mar. 16, 1682.

Children:

Abigail and Mary (4) by first marriage, b. 1679 and 1681.

Nathaniel (4) b. Feb. 3, 1684.	Malatiah (4) b. 1693
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Benjamin (4) b. Oct. 17, 1686.	Timothy (4) b. 1695
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John (4) b. Feb. 16, 1689	Hannah (4) b. 1698
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Elizabeth (4) b. 1692	Eddy (4) b. 1700
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Solomon (4) b. 1704

Timothy settled in Tolland and Solomon in Mansfield, Conn.

Ch. of Timothy: Sylvanus; Jethro; Timothy, Jr.; Simeon; Job; Elizabeth.

Samuel (3) b. Oct. 11, 1659, m. Lydia—

Children:

Eleazer	(4) b. Sept. 23, 1694.	Samuel	(4) b. Feb. 28, 1696
James	(4) b. Aug. 23, 1697	Lydia	(4) b. 1699
(m. Ebenezer Hatch)			

Deacon Moses Hatch (3) b. Mar. 4, 1663, m. Oct. 18, 1699, Elisa Thacher, dau. of John Thacher of Yarmouth. He died May 20, 1747.

Children:

Elizabeth, m. Timothy Hallett; Moses, Jr. and Sylvanus.

Moses (4) m. dau. of Rev. Joseph Lord and grand-daughter of Gov. Hinckley. Moses had a son Joseph, who m. Mehitable Johnson, ch. Job Hatch, m. Achiah Gifford; his son John Gifford Hatch emigrated from Falmouth and settled near Rochester. His son was Edwin Hatch.

John Hatch (4), son of Benjamin (3) m. Mariah Fish, Falmouth, Jan. 30, 1716. He moved to Mansfield, Conn. and bought a farm of 100 acres.

Children:

Samuel	(5) b. July 11, 1716.	Elizabeth	(5) b. Jan. 14, 1723.
Hannah	(5) b. June 22, 1717.	Nathan	(5) b. July 1, 1726.
John	(5) b. Mar. 9, 1719.	Malatiah	(5) b. July 8, 1728.
Benj.	(5) b. Jan. 5, 1720.		

The descendants of Benjamin Hatch (3) and Joseph Hatch (3) moved from Connecticut to Rochester and other towns of western New York. John and Solomon Hatch came from Conn. in 1806 and built the first saw mill at Allyn's Creek, Brighton, N. Y. They have many descendants in Rochester.

Jethro Hatch (5) had also a brother Simeon who died in 1734 in Falmouth. This Simeon had two daughters.

Jonathan Hatch (4) b. 1678, m. Bethiah Nye, Dec. 21, 1703.

Children:

Simeon	(5) b. Mar. 24, 1705.	Nathan	(5) b. Aug. 22, 1710.
Thankful	(5) b. Sept. 8, 1706.	Moses	(5) b. Feb. 24, 1712.
Ebenezer	(5) b. Mar. 22, 1709.	Benjamin	(5) b. July 15, 1715.

Simeon Hatch (5) b. Mar. 24, 1705.

Ch. of Simeon and Abiah, his wife: Bethiah, Mar. 11, 1730.

Addition to Page 42:

Simeon Hatch (1) our ancestor who settled in Dresden, Me., was born in Falmouth, Mass., in 1755 and died in South Dresden, Me., Oct. 5, 1802, aged 47 years. He married Jemima Pease.

Addition to Page 43:

Ebenezer Hatch (2) b. Apr. 24, 1780, Falmouth, Mass.
d. Oct. 19, 1856, Dresden, Me.

married 1st

Abigail Foster, Jan. 3, 1802, at Alna, Me. She was born Aug. 12, 1779 at Woolwich, Me.: d. Oct. 19, 1847.

married 2nd

Mrs. Lawton, a widow with three daughters, Cornelia, Mandana and —

William Hatch (3) died June 7, 1832, aged 24 years.

Thomas Hatch (3) married 1st, Elmira Lowell, June 28, 1827. They had seven children. His wife died soon after the birth of their youngest child, John A. Hatch, b. Aug. 14, 1839; d. Aug. 13, 1840. He married 2nd Mrs. Mary White (Lowell.) They had one child, Thomas M. Hatch, b. May 12, 1842; d. Mar. 15, 1843.

Betsey Hatch Stilphen (4) lived the greater part of her life at Dresden Mills, where her second husband, Francis Stilphen, had a dry goods store. After his death she lived for sometime in their comfortable home there and later with friends in the town. She had no children. She was a very refined and well educated woman, a teacher for many years before her first marriage. After a brief illness, she quietly passed away at an advanced age in 1918.

Lydia A. Hatch (4), sister of Betsey and Warren A. Hatch, married Christopher J. Patterson, who was born Nov. 9, 1832. Their daughter, Elmira E. Patterson, was born Feb. 4, 1857, died Aug. 16, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson owned a large farm and fine home at Dresden, Middle Bridge, where they were among the very prominent families of the town. As they grew older, having no children living, the care of the home became too much for them and they lived a part of the time in Richmond, Me., where they both died quite suddenly during the winter of 1915. They were buried in the cemetery at Pownalboro Hall, Dresden, Maine.

Addition to Page 56 "Children of David Benton and Nancy Pitts"

Family Record of Gideon Pitts Benton, Sr. (1)

GIDEON PITTS BENTON, SR. (1) was a son of DAVID BENTON and NANCY PITTS BENTON (see New York State ancestry, Page 56), and brother of Ebenezer and Phebe Benton, of Livonia, New York, also brother of Mary Benton, who married John Gould of Livonia, N. Y. and later settled in Novi, Mich.

He was born at Hemlock Lake, in the town of Livonia, Feb. 25, 1809. He went as a pioneer to Michigan in 1825 (some claim earlier) and took up a homestead in the township of Plymouth, locating a farm near what is the village of Waterford or Meades Mills. He was the first Postmaster in the town of Plymouth, going on horseback and bringing the mail from Dearborn. The first Michigan postoffice west of Dearborn was on the Benton farm. A very interesting account of Gideon Pitts Benton and those early days may be found in the records of the Michigan Historical Society, the volumes of which may be found in any of our larger libraries.

In 1826 he returned to New York State and on Oct. 30 of that year he married Clarissa A. Rhodes (Gould), leaving the same day for their Michigan home in the forest. He is said to have been a man of great energy and force of character; also, that his barn, which is still standing, was the first in the township to be raised without liquor, of which they were very proud.

About 1836 he was injured from a fall from his horse, and three days later died, never recovering his speech. He left a widow and two sons, Richmond Pitts and Hiram C. Benton. The following winter, after Mr. Benton's death, another son, Gideon Pitts Benton, Jr. was born. Mrs. Benton died in 1891 at the age of 93.

Children of Gideon Pitts Benton, Sr. (1) and Clarissa G. Rhodes (Gould).

1. Richmond Pitts Benton, (2) born Apr. 2, 1829, died Jan. 4, 1854.
He married Emily Sackett, May 17, 1853.
They had no children.
2. Hiram C. Benton, (2) born May 13, 1833, died Jan. 13, 1903.
Married, 1st, May 17, 1855, Sybil Malvina Simmons, died Dec. 2, 1871.

Children:

Constant Simmons Benton	b. Oct. 14, 1859. d. May 29, 188 .
Cassius R. Benton	b. Nov. 12, 1863. d. Oct. 2, 1922.
Alice M. Benton	b. Apr. 26, 1865.

Married 2nd: Sept. 1872, Ursula Simmons, cousin of his first wife. She died in 1920.

Children:

Hayes Benton, lives near Iona, Mich; has two boys.

Nancy J. Benton; born May, 1878; died about 1918.

Dorsill Benton; lives near Northville, Mich., is married and has two children.

Hiram C. Benton (2) was born in Northville, Mich. He began teaching when 16 years of age. In the summer he helped his aged mother with the farm work for seventeen years. In 1855 he married Sybil M. Simmons and made a home in the west part of his father's homestead, in which home they both later died.

Hiram C. Benton was one of nature's noblemen. He loved the farm, his neighbors and community; was public spirited, ready to help the needy; no one asked of him in vain, his heart and purse were open to all. He was a successful horseman of state renown.

Children of Hiram C. Benton (2) and Sybil M. Simmons.

Cassius R. Benton (3) was born Nov. 12, 1863, married Sophia Lauffer, died Oct. 2, 1922. They had no children.

Mr. Cassius R. Benton was one of the outstanding figures in Republican circles of Wayne Co., Mich. His career of twenty-five years of public service, had covered many county offices and important commissions for the state.

He was born on a farm half a mile from Northville, on the Plymouth road, one of the historic spots of the state. Here he lived all his life. On the same farm his father, Gideon Pitts Benton, Jr. (2) was born. It was a Government forest when his grandfather, Gideon Pitts Benton, Sr. (1), acquired it nearly 100 years ago, the patent for the original transfer being signed by President John Quincy Adams. The first Michigan Postoffice west of Dearborn was on the Benton farm.

He received his education in Northville and a Detroit Business College. In 1897 he entered public life as highway commissioner of Plymouth township. In 1899 he held the office of Supervisor of Northville Township and for four years afterward. He was appointed one of the first members of the Wayne County road commissioners, together with Henry Ford and Edward N. Hines. In 1894 he was sent to the legislature and was re-elected two years later.

Practically all of Mr. Benton's public activities were along the line of tax matters. He possessed a most accurate and comprehensive knowledge of tax values, not only of Wayne County, but of the entire state; and when Gov. Sleeper, in 1917, appointed him a member of the State Tax Commission for a term of six years, the appointment was widely commended. Mr. Benton was appointed a delegate to all National and State Tax conferences, being considered a tax expert.

That Mr. Benton was held in the highest esteem by his fellow townsmen was shown by the fact that from the time of his death until after his funeral the flag in Northville was at half-mast, and on the afternoon of his funeral all business houses were closed.

Children of Hiram C. Benton and Sybil M. Simmons.

Alice M. Benton, (3) was born April 26, 1865, at Northville, Mich., married Ezra J. Mason, Oct. 4, 1883. They lived in Gratton, Mich., until 1904, then moved to Hagerman, New Mexico. He died in Roswell, N. M., Nov. 7, 1918.

Mr. Mason was engaged in farming in the Pecos Valley for fifteen years, having improved one of the most beautiful places in this section of the valley. As one of the pioneers he was an important factor in the later development of the community. As a citizen and neighbor he was highly esteemed.

Children of Alice M. Benton (3) and Ezra J. Mason.

1. Cassius Garner Mason, B. Gratton, Mich., July 11, 1884; married Mary B. Boyce, Feb. 10, 1912. He was ordered by his physician to move to a dry climate, and in April, 1904, he went to Hagerman, New Mexico, where he has become a successful undertaker; has been in the City Council for years; is now Postmaster.

Children:

1. Mary Alice Mason; b. July 18, 1913; died Apr. 15, 1917.
 2. Buel Wayne Mason; b. Mar. 26, 1915.
 3. Betty Mildred Mason; b. Aug. 26, 1916.
 4. Cassius Garner Mason, Jr.; b. Jan. 14, 1920.
-
2. Winzetta Mason was born at Gratton, Mich., Jan. 21, 1886; married Henry F. Johnson, Sept. 10, 1906. They had one child, H. Franklin. Mrs. Johnson died Dec. 18, 1909, at the home of her parents. The noble and true predominated in her life, and her memory will be cherished in the hearts and minds of a host of friends.
 3. Melvina Mason, b. Aug. 21, 1887, in Grotton, Mich; married Charles R. Tallman, June 28, 1910. She died Jan. 24, 1916, at Mer Rouge, Louisiana, where they had lived for three years. Her life, though not long, was a blessing to those about her. She left two children, Alice Marie and Nellie Mason Tallman.
 4. Emma Mason, b. Apr. 20, 1894; died, Feb. 1, 1898.

Children of Gideon Pitts Benton, Sr. (1) and Clarissa G. Rhodes.

3. GIDEON PITTS BENTON, JR. (2) was the brother of Richmond Pitts Benton (2) and Hiram C. Benton, (2). He was born after the death of his father, Gideon Pitts Benton, Sr. (1).

He was born Feb. 6, 1837, at Plymouth, Mich., now known as Northville, on the farm taken up by his father, and pursued the occupation of farmer throughout his life. He died in 1891. He married

1st. Harriet M. Simmons, of Farmington, Mich. Feb. 22, 1863. She died May 28, 1867. They had one child, Howard Benton, b. May 6, 1865, at Plymouth, Mich. Married Ermine W. Fahrig, Mar. 26, 1895. Child; Dwight F. Benton, b. June 15, 1898, at Washburn, Wis. He lives with Mrs. Leslie, Anna Arbor, Mich.

2nd. Maggie Noyes (Noe) in 1869, of Commerce, Mich.; died Dec. 12, 1872.

Children:

1. Richmond P. Benton, (3), born May 4, 1871, at Plymouth, Mich. He moved to Seattle, Wash., in 1898; on May 7, 1900, he moved to Los Angeles, where he now resides. He married Mar. 2, 1898, Henrietta C. Hillmer. They have three children:

1. Boran R. Benton, b. Dec. 11, 1898, at Seattle, Wash.; married Vera Cole, Apr. 3, 1919. Child, Jane Gladys Benton, born Dec. 11, 1922, at San Diego, Cal.

2. Virginia Mae Benton, b. Oct. 1, 1905, at Los Angeles, Cal.

3. George F. Benton, b. Jan. 5, 1907, at Los Angeles, Cal.

2. Gideon C. Benton (3) brother of Richmond P. Benton (3) was born in Plymouth, Mich. Sept. 28, 1872. Married Lillie E. Crocker, of Northville, Mich. Oct. 1896. Mr. Gideon C. Benton, is a very successful farmer and has a fine large farm and beautiful home in Northville. They have four fine children:

1. Mabel Rose Benton, b. Sept. 20, 1897. She married Harold O. Paul, of Pidgeon, Mich. July 1, 1922.

2. Howard Benton, b. Jan. 28, 1899.

3. Seth Benton, b. May 15, 1904.

4. Thomas Hiram Benton, b. Aug. 13, 1906.

GIDEON PITTS BENTON, JR., (2) married 3rd Minerva Shives, of Livonia, Mich. Dec. 17, 1874. She was born Aug. 19, 1841, and is still living at an advanced age with her daughter, Mrs. Leslie, in Ann Arbor, Mich. Clarissa Benton was born Feb. 3, 1877, at Plymouth. She married Apr. 5, 1899, Franklin A. Leslie, of Webster, Mich. They had twins, born at Denton, Mich., Oct. 31, 1905. Benton Lawrence died four hours after birth. Benton Cassius Leslie is still living.

